SouthCambs

MAGAZINE • WINTER 2011

INSIDE // ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH // COMMUNITY // CONSERVATION // OLYMPICS // ART & CULTURE // KEY ISSUES – TENANTS' NEWS

Blue bins - one year on

See page 29

South Cambridgeshire District Council

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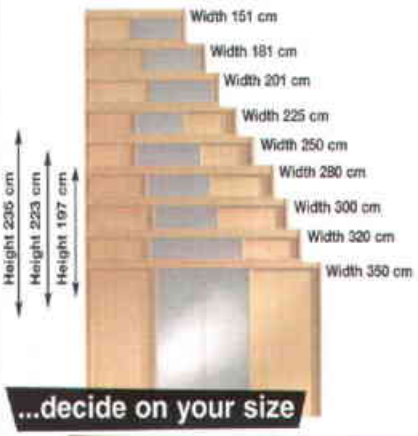

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'This wardrobe solution saves you time, money and the hassle!'

Welcome to the Winter issue of *South Cambs Magazine.*

One year since we started using blue bins, how much of a difference have they made to the amount we recycle? Find out on page 29. And for recycling advice and your all-important festive bin collection dates, see pages 24 to 29.

We're setting up a new consultation panel and want as many people as possible to join. Find out how to take part and have your say on page 8. We'd also like your views on our new draft vision, take a look at page 10 and get in touch to tell us what you think.

Cllr Ray Manning, Leader,
South Cambridgeshire District Council

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search 'South Cambridgeshire'
www.twitter.com/southcambs

Contents

How to contact us	04
Community	05
About your council	10
Environmental health	16
Housing	18
Planning	20
Recycling and waste	24
Arts and culture	30
Olympics	33
Youth	37
Conservation	40
Key issues – tenants' news	42

● **Front cover image: Blue bins - one year on (page 29)**

Delivery changes

We regularly review how South Cambs Magazine is designed, printed and delivered to make sure that it remains good value for money. Our new delivery company – PDC - will be delivering the magazine from this issue onwards.

If you have any queries about your magazine delivery please contact PDC direct on 01904 606300 or email customerservice@teampdc.co.uk and they will be very pleased to help you.

Putting service first

If you phone us we will
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- consider translation, large type, Braille or audio tapes upon request

At all times we will
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If we visit you we will
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- arrive at the time we say, or give you as much notice as possible if we have to change the time
- treat your home with respect

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- apologise if we have made a mistake or failed to meet our standards
- acknowledge your written complaint within three working days
- reply in full to your complaint within 10 working days

Particular services have their own additional standards. These are available at www.scambs.gov.uk/customerstandards or copies can be sent by post – please call 03450 450 500

South Cambs Magazine

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03450 450 061	housing and council tax benefits
03450 450 062	building regulation inspections
03450 450 063	environmental services
03450 450 063	licensing
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Need to make a payment?
There are several ways to make a payment to SCDC. We encourage payments by direct debit or by credit or debit card. Our card service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- by phone: 03450 455 218
- or online: www.scambs.gov.uk/paymybill

You can also pay using a payment card at any Post Office or Pay Point outlet.

To request a direct debit form or a payment card call 03450 450 064

Payments can also be made in person at Cambridge City Council's Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge, Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm, excluding bank holidays.

Our Vision
- We will make South Cambridgeshire a safe and healthy place where residents are proud to live and where there will be opportunities for employment, enterprise and world-leading innovation.
- We will be a listening council, providing a voice for rural life and first-class services accessible to all.

Tell us how we're doing
At SCDC we're proud of what we are trying to achieve and recognise we can always do better. To improve our services, we appreciate your feedback, either telling us when we have performed particularly well, or informing us when you have not been satisfied. You can do this in a number of ways:

- comments to scdc@scambs.gov.uk
- compliments to compliments@scambs.gov.uk
- complaints to complaints@scambs.gov.uk
- in person at our offices Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 5pm
- by telephone on 03450 450 500 Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm and on Saturday 9am - 1pm
- in writing to the customer service coordinator at our main office

If you would like a copy in large print please contact:

03450 450 500
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Grants review

In these difficult economic times, we remain committed to supporting communities through our grant funding schemes. These were recently reviewed to make sure they are as clear, flexible and easy to access as possible, and continue to support our priorities. The changes we have made have been informed by the experiences of former grant recipients.

Our grants will now fall into three categories:

Service Support Grants

These aim to support agencies and voluntary groups, such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and Village Warden Schemes, to deliver their services across the district or within a defined geographical area.

Capital Grants

These will support community sports projects, arts and recreational facilities and the construction or renovation of community, historic, and environmental resources. They will also help with the conservation of privately-owned listed buildings.

• ABOVE **Cllr Ray Manning and Cllr Alison Elcox with Stuart Racher of Cambourne Football Club, the first recipient of a Community Chest Grant of £940**

Community Chest Grants

Targeted at community based initiatives and one-off projects, these grants of up to £1,000 are available to support local communities.

Organisations in receipt of three-year funding until March 2013 remain unaffected by these changes.

If you have claimed and/or received a grant from us, tell us about your experience by visiting www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest and completing the feedback form before 16 December. Grant application forms are available from the same page. For more information call Community Development on 03450 450 500.

Care Network extends services

One of the local charities we support through grant funding is Care Network. At its AGM on 7 October an expansion of services to help older, isolated and vulnerable people to remain independent was announced. The charity supports local groups to run services such as car and warden schemes and lunch clubs. It also has over 100 volunteers who offer "Help at Home", assisting with shopping, fetching prescriptions, and preparing food and drink which, for many, may be too much at a difficult time. This help can keep someone out of hospital and in their own home. Anyone needing assistance can refer themselves, a friend or relative.

• RIGHT **Care Network's Help At Home scheme can give short-term help with shopping and other tasks**

To find out more about using Care Network's Help at Home Service, or if you'd like to volunteer, call 01354 694 413

The real Green Deal

Our Rampton Drift retrofit project has been such a success that Greg Barker, Minister of State at the Department of Energy and Climate Change visited in October.

The visit comes before the Green Deal is launched next year – a Government initiative to revolutionise the energy efficiency of the nation's homes and businesses.

Three of our participating residents, Andy Batey, Euan Smith and Tao Brown gave the minister a tour of their homes, answering questions and discussing what it was like living through the retrofitting works and why they'd taken part.

Andy said, "As an initiative to get our energy consumption down and reduce emissions, this project has been a valuable preview of the Government's Green Deal."

Euan added, "We got involved in this project because getting our energy consumption and emissions down really matters. Hopefully this time next year we'll see dramatic efficiencies achieved for our energy usage."

SCDC councilors and officers, plus representatives from PRP Architects, Willmott Dixon Rethinking Team, and ACCE Solutions, were also on hand to explain how residents were encouraged to take part and describe how the technology was designed and successfully installed.

Cllr Tim Wotherspoon, Cabinet member for Northstowe and new communities, said: "Homes at Rampton Drift will be part of Northstowe and the Government grant has helped us demonstrate to developers what could be achieved. We're aiming to make Northstowe one of the most sustainable new communities and the work carried out in the district gives the platform to help innovative businesses thrive."

• ABOVE **Cllr Ray Manning, SCDC leader (left) shows Greg Barker around the retrofit scheme**

What is the retrofit project?

Government grants have helped us to kit out 13 homes built in the 1950s and 70s with technologies including innovative insulation, energy efficient boilers and solar panels to show just how much energy can be saved.

For more information on the Rampton Drift project visit our website www.scambs.gov.uk or contact Tracy Mann on 03450 450 500

Neighbourhood Panels in action

In July, the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, Billy's of Cambridge, and Tesco jointly funded a skate board competition for young people in Bar Hill. The event, organised by PCSO Bujar Mani and PC Claire Reeves, followed a neighbourhood panel meeting at which the skate park was identified as a local priority. It also followed a series of police surgeries held at Swavesey Village College aimed at finding out what issues affect the students' everyday lives.

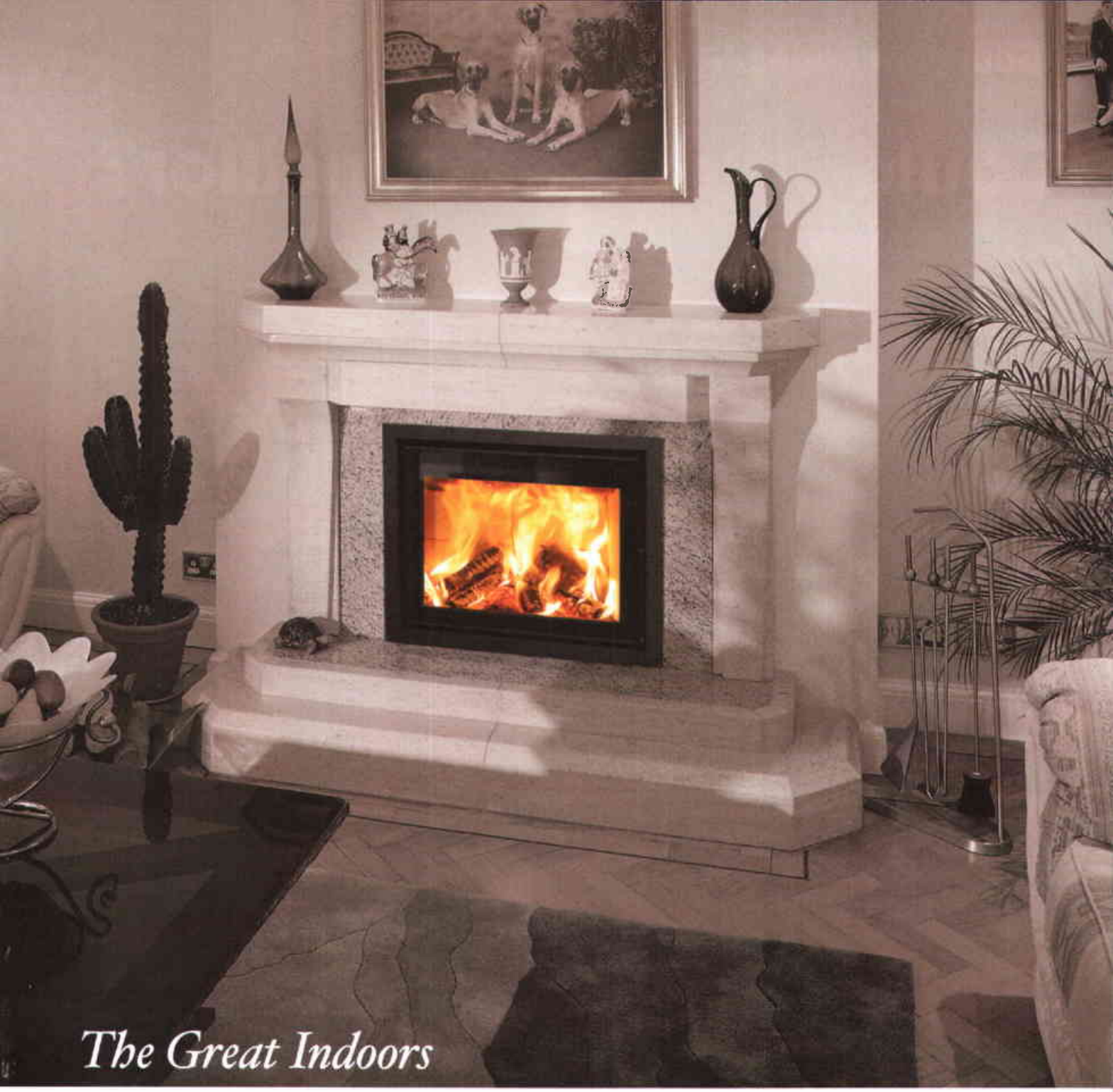
Anti social behaviour often affects young people more directly than adults. Many of our open spaces and communal areas are vulnerable to misuse. Listening to the students, it became clear that a good deal of young residents in Bar Hill didn't feel safe visiting the skate park because it had become somewhere for under age people to gather to smoke and drink.

The competition, together with increased visible policing, some repair work, and a series of visits from the Connections Youth Bus, has improved the area for young people. When young people feel that they are being invested in as individuals, with resources such as the skate park, experience shows us they tend to steer away from anti social behaviour.

Young people in Bar Hill have a real sense of ownership of their skate park, and were keen to showcase, during the competition, what they have been practising out of the view of the adult population.

It is hoped the event will be held annually.

To find out the dates of your next Neighbourhood Panel, visit www.cambs-police.co.uk/myneighbourhood or call 0345 456 456 4



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Could you be a councillor?

Fifty-seven elected councillors work hard across South Cambridgeshire to represent you and your community's interests. Have you ever considered standing for election?

We spoke to Councillor Sue Ellington, a district councillor for Swavesey for the last five years, and Cabinet member for environmental services.

"As a district councillor you represent your village – or a group of villages – across all aspects of community life. One day you could be dealing with bin collections and drainage and the next planning applications or food inspections for local businesses.

"You also help to advise on problems that local people are having, helping them to access council and other local services. We help point people in the right direction.

"As well as having a local focus, you also need to make judgements about what is best for the majority of residents as part of Full Council. This can involve making decisions for the majority, rather than the vocal minority.

"You inevitably have to attend meetings and listen to debates before making balanced judgements. But you also have to balance your own life to make sure that you enjoy representing your community and the whole experience of being a councillor.

"In modern councils there is a need to work in partnership with other groups such as the county and parish councils, but also with the voluntary, health and community sectors to make sure that residents get a joined up service.

"I can honestly say I really enjoy the challenge and satisfaction of seeing new policies put into action to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the services we provide."

Councillor facts:

- Serve for four-year terms
- Represent a 'ward' – one village or more
- May stand for a political party or as an independent
- Can stand for election from 18 years of age

● ABOVE The top table at a Full Council meeting

For information about standing for election and being a Councillor visit www.beacouncillor.org.uk/east
We're also holding a 'Be A Councillor' event at 6pm on Monday 13 February at South Cambridgeshire Hall.

For more information, and to book your place, contact Democratic Services on 03450 450 500 or democratic.services@scambs.gov.uk

Join our consultation panel – have your say!

Want to give your opinion on council services and priorities? Sign up to our new consultation panel and you can do just that.

Your opinions matter, so we're looking for people of all ages and from all areas of South Cambridgeshire to help us improve.

We'll be asking you how you rate our services, what you think about our current priorities and what we should focus on in the future.

From Council Tax to affordable housing and bin collections, we'll be regularly asking for your views to feed into our policies and decision-making.

Cllr Tom Bygott, Cabinet member for policy and performance, said, "We're a listening council, and your opinions and feedback are essential to help us shape and improve services. We really want to find out what matters to you, and how you think we're performing. We're setting this panel up to consult with residents throughout the year, and need your help to make it work."

If you're interested in joining the panel follow the link from the homepage of www.scambs.gov.uk call 03450 450 500, or pick up a paper form at our Cambourne office

Combating discrimination and harassment

If you feel a person or organisation is treating you differently and unfairly, or you're being harassed, **CHESS** is here to help.

CHESS is the Cambridgeshire Human Rights and Equality Support Service. They can offer you free support and advice to help with discrimination and harassment problems:

- **at work**
- **accessing services – like housing, healthcare or education**
- **with the police, courts or prison service**
- **with other organisations**
- **with other members of the public.**

Supported by SCDC, drop-in surgeries are being held at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne from 10am to 3pm on the following Thursdays:

- **8 December**
- **5 January**
- **2 February**
- **1 March**
- **29 March**

You don't need to make an appointment, just turn up on the day.

You can also contact CHESS direct on 01223 462615 or chessenquiries@cecf.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Most of our meetings are open to the public – why not come along and see how decisions are made? All meetings are held at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne, unless listed otherwise.

Council - 2pm on 26 January and 23 February
Cabinet - 6pm on 12 January and 2pm on 9 February – recommending budget and priorities for 2012/13
Scrutiny and Overview Committee - 2pm on 15 December, 6 February and 29 March
Corporate Governance Committee - 9am on 16 December and 30 March
Standards Committee - 10am on 14 December and 14 March
Planning Committee - NEW START TIME - 10am on 7 December, 11 January 1 February and 7 March
Climate Change Working Group - 10am on 6 March

Planning Enforcement Sub-Committee meetings will be called if and when required two weeks after Planning Committee meetings.

Portfolio Holders' meetings

Environmental Services - 2pm on 17 January and 14 February
Finance and Staffing - 6pm on 20 December 17 January, 21 February and 20 March
Housing - 5.30pm on 18 January, 15 February and 21 March
Leader's meeting - 10am on 19 January and 15 March
Northstowe and New Communities - 2pm on 25 January and 21 February
Policy and Performance - 10am on 26 January and 9 February
Sustainability, Planning and Climate Change - 10am on 20 January and 17 February

Published meeting dates may have to be changed occasionally and extra meetings may be arranged. Please visit www.scambs.gov.uk/meetings or phone Democratic Services on 03450 450 500 for up to date information.

Our future priorities

It's that time of year when we start consulting on our draft aims and actions for council services over the next 12 months – deciding what we spend time and money on for the benefit of you and your community.

At the time of going to press, our decision-making Cabinet has been asked to propose a new long-term vision for the district. The draft vision is:

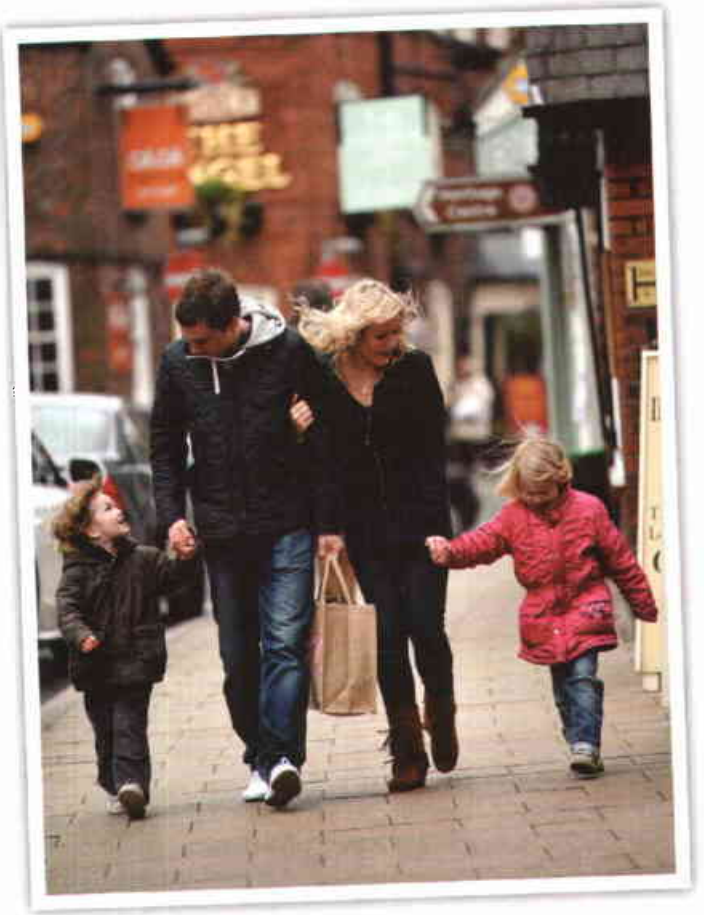
"South Cambridgeshire will continue to be the best place to live and work in the country. Our economy will demonstrate impressive and sustainable economic growth. Our residents will have an enviable quality of life in an exceptionally beautiful, rural and green environment.

"The Council will be recognised as consistently innovative and a high performer with a track record of delivering value for money by focusing on the priorities, needs and aspirations of our residents, parishes and businesses."

The new vision will be achieved through a framework of Aims, Approaches and Actions – which we're also be consulting on:

- Aims – delivering the vision
- Approaches – providing a framework to achieve our aims
- Actions – specific projects to deliver our aims.

Views from residents, councillors and council staff will now be collected and considered. An agreement of our final aims and actions will be made at the Council budget meeting in February.



• ABOVE **We're setting our vision and aims to drive services for you, your family and your community**

Take a look at the vision, Aims, Approaches and Actions at http://bit.ly/sn8CXn or call our Policy team on 03450 450 500 for a paper copy. Let us know what you think by emailing us at policy@scambs.gov.uk or writing to our Policy team at South Cambridgeshire Hall. Why not join our consultation panel (see page 8) to make sure that your views on this and other council issues and services are counted?

Christmas opening times

Our Cambourne office will be open for you between Wednesday 28 and Friday 30 December from 8am to 5pm as normal. We will be closed on public holidays.

Our contact centre will also be open over the following days and times:
Friday 23 December – 8am to 6pm
Saturday 24 December – 9am to 1pm
Wednesday 28 December – 8am to 6pm
Thursday 29 December – 8am to 6pm
Friday 30 December – 8am to 6pm
Saturday 31 December – 9am to 1pm

From Monday 2 January the contact centre will be open as normal Monday to Friday – 8am to 8pm and Saturday – 9am to 1pm.

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Celebrating community pride

Willingham and Swavesey were celebrating after scooping the top gongs at our Community Pride and Village Hero Awards in October.

The annual awards celebrate the work carried out by parish councils and local volunteers, showcasing the hard work and commitment that turns our villages into communities.

Michael Tidball from Willingham is this year's Village Hero for his tireless work to improve quality of life for local residents.

As chairman of the Willingham Parish Plan Committee, and a member of its follow-on action group, Michael has worked with local people and the Parish Council to deliver village priorities – including forming a social group, which organises the annual Willingham Feast. He is also a key member of the local Youth Trust.

Swavesey Parish Council took the top Community Pride award for their extensive support of community buildings. A £40,000 grant to the Community Sports Pavilion Trust helped to fund a new eco-friendly building, and the refurbishment of the village hall has also been supported. Other activities helped by the parish council include village ponds, wildlife areas and a youth café.

Awards host, Cllr Tony Orgee, SCDC chairman, said, "The standard of entries for Village Hero was extremely high but Michael's achievements really stood out. By listening to local people – and helping to turn their priorities into reality – he has done Willingham a sterling service that will benefit residents now and for years to come."

"Community buildings are vital to villages, and Swavesey Parish Council's generous support for facilities is a fantastic example of giving local people and groups even more opportunity to run both fun and vital activities."

"I'd like to thank every award nominee for the significant contributions they have made to village life, sometimes for as long as 40 years."

The award ceremony was held at Scotsdales Garden Centre, Great Shelford, and was sponsored by both Scotsdales and Hill Residential.

● **SCDC Village Hero 2011 – (left to right) Cllr Simon Edwards, SCDC deputy leader; Michael Tidball, Village Hero 2011 and Cllr Tony Orgee, SCDC Chairman**

● **ABOVE LEFT Village Hero 2nd place – John Gillett from Little Gransden with Cllrs Edwards and Orgee. ABOVE RIGHT Village Hero 3rd place – Hazel Offord from Grantchester and Gill Redman from Comberton with Cllrs Edwards and Orgee**

● **SCDC Community Pride Award 2011 - (left to right) Cllr Sue Ellington, SCDC environmental services portfolio holder and local councillor for Swavesey; Linda Miller, Swavesey Parish Council clerk and Cllr Tony Orgee, SCDC chairman**

And the winners were...

Village Hero

First place:
Michael Tidball from Willingham

Second place:
John Gillett from Little Gransden

Joint third place:
Hazel Offord from Grantchester and Gill Redman from Comberton

Community Pride

First place:
Swavesey Parish Council

Second place:
Stapleford Parish Council

Third place:
Great Shelford Parish Council

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CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES:

Late night Thursdays: 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd till 8pm
Saturday 24th (Christmas Eve): 8am - 4pm
Tuesday 27th: 10am - 5pm
Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th, Friday 30th & Saturday 31st: 9am - 5pm
Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Bury Lane offers its customers a relaxed and peaceful shopping atmosphere all under one roof. The Christmas shop is an Aladdin's cave of lights and decorations for your perfect tree. Meet the story telling Santa and post your Christmas list.

Smell the wonderful fresh spruce aroma as you choose your Christmas tree, help is at hand to choose and put the tree in or on your car.

In the gift shop where you'll find the perfect present and card or friends and family. Then stock up on some tasty preserves and chutneys for the pantry.

Bury Lane's display of hampers is so appealing and an iconic part of the British Christmas. They pride themselves on the quality of their hampers. Filled to bursting with a fantastic selection of food an drink, each is individual and provides a different kind of feast. Hampers can be made for any dietary needs or a particularly fussy relative!

The butcher's counter offers game and traditional cuts of free range meat with expert advice and recipes from the team.Now in season is a fantastic selection of game for warming winter dishes. The fruit and vegetable shop has a wonderful selection of seasonal veg with some great special offers.

Stop off for a homemade cake and fresh coffee in the café, or stay a little longer for a late breakfast or light lunch.Make sure you leave a little space for tastings at the deli counter with a fantastic selection of more than 80 British and European cheeses that will set your mouth watering.

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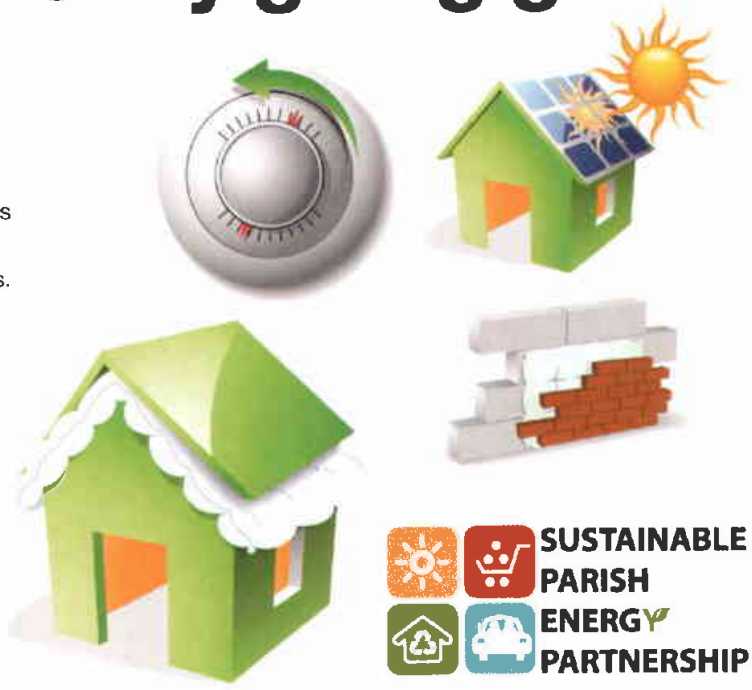


The South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP) supports local volunteer groups across the district to help communities and residents cut energy costs and become less dependent on increasingly expensive fossil fuels.

These are important issues that are not always easy to tackle alone. SPEP and its parish-based volunteer groups are able to help with advice, encouragement and access to a whole range of support and experience. You can find out about insulation, renewable energy and car-sharing, borrow an energy monitor, and even get your home thermally imaged.

If you have a little time to give, you can help SPEP to support your community by helping with any of the following:

- **distributing local energy booklets**
- **updating website pages**
- **helping to run a village energy show**
- **organising a local workshop on anything from draught-proofing to composting or carrying out a community energy survey**
- **sharing a bit of vegetable growing space.**

With over 25 South Cambridgshire parishes now signed up to SPEP there has never been a better time to get involved with saving energy, saving money and looking after our local communities.

SUSTAINABLE PARISH ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

If you're thinking of ways to reduce your heating or electricity bills, and do your bit for a more sustainable future, then linking up with SPEP is almost certainly for you. To find out if there is a local group in your parish call Siobhan Mellon on 03450 450 500, email sustainability@scambs.gov.uk or visit www.scambs.gov.uk/Environment/SPEP

Get on your bike for Travel for Work

Granta Park Director, Roz Bird, has swapped her drive to work for a bike ride to show commuters how easy it is to cycle to the park – and she's made a video to prove it.

Having never cycled to work before, Roz decided to test the 8-mile route from Cambridge to Granta Park after colleagues told her the route, although quite long, was easy.

Roz said: "I loved the ride and, as I like keeping fit, it gives me another option other than going to the gym."

Complete with headcam, Roz cycled to work using many of the district's cycle routes, including the Granta Park funded cycle path to Babraham. To see Roz's video commute, visit http://bit.ly/teVVet.

Roz continued: "The support and advice from TfW is important to the success of Granta Park's Travel Management. TfW helps us to survey the 2,000 commuters to the estate to make sure that opportunities to improve the travel plan are identified."

TfW is working with 100 sites employing over 65,000 commuters, including many of South Cambridgeshire's business and science parks.

Mark Webb of TfW said: "Our members receive support and advice to help them promote cycling, walking, car-sharing and public transport. All our services and tools make workplace travel planning easy. As an added bonus, all employees at TfW organisations receive our great cycle shop and train ticket discounts.

"Together we are helping to keep the county moving by reducing congestion and saving businesses and commuters money."

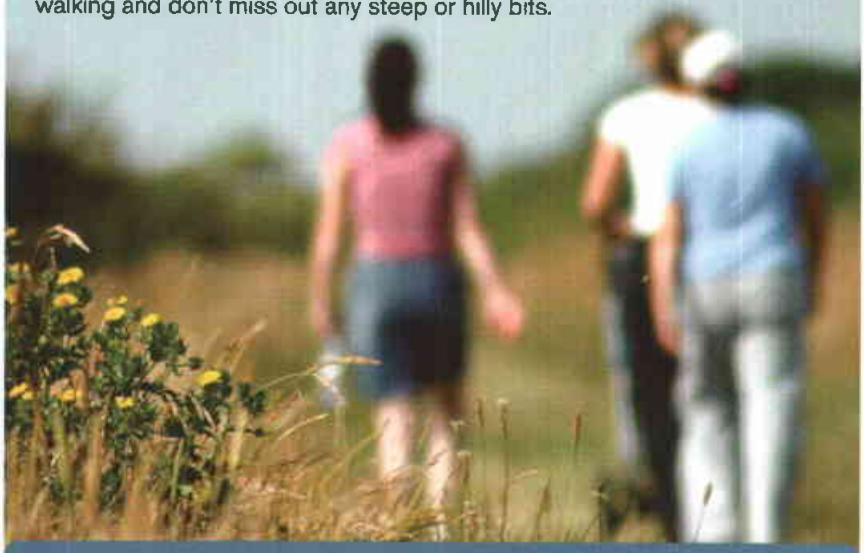
For more information contact info@tfw.org.uk, call 01223 715550 or visit www.tfw.org.uk

Walk on the wildside

Walking is one of the most healthy and popular forms of exercise in the UK, and it's free.

With such beautiful countryside to explore across South Cambridgeshire, why not get out for a walk?

To get the most health benefit from walking, you need to work up a sweat. Try walking at different speeds, build in a few minutes of brisk walking and don't miss out any steep or hilly bits.



If you don't want to walk alone why not join a local walking group? Or if you prefer running, see page 34 for details of our Run4Fun Scheme.
You can also find more ideas for beautiful walks around our district and county at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/countryside

Protecting our air

Part of our work is to make sure that industrial sites don't release pollution into the air that could damage your health and our environment.

We've taken on this responsibility in recent years and it's one that we take very seriously.

There are 59 premises across South Cambridgeshire that we inspect annually, checking that emissions meet relevant legislation. These include a crematorium, waste oil burning facilities and cement plants.

Other businesses include vehicle re-spraying shops, furniture manufacturers, dry-cleaners and petrol stations.

Any premises that release potentially harmful emissions must apply for a permit from us. As well as the annual inspection, they must also show us the checks they have in place to minimise emissions.

For more information on ways that we check on and protect local air quality, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/airquality or call us on 03450 450 063

Keeping car fumes down

With plans for thousands of new homes over the next 10-12 years, we're putting guidance in place for new developments to keep car emissions as low as possible.

An increase in traffic has the potential to increase local air pollution. To offset this, we'll be asking developers to include a range of measures both in their plans and as homes are built.

These may include electric charging bays, low emission travel incentives and the creation of car clubs to name just a few. In addition, developers will be asked to contribute to the costs of measuring air pollution so that we can monitor the impact of each development on air quality.

For more information contact our Health Protection Team on 03450 450 500 or env.health@scambs.gov.uk

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Before

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Recognition for our commitment to affordable housing

In recognition of our commitment to providing affordable housing in rural areas, and our support for the National Housing Federation's (NHF) Save Our Villages campaign, we're delighted to have received the NHF's Commitment to Rural Housing certificate.

Housing in rural areas can be more expensive than in cities and towns, often putting it beyond the means of many local residents. For these reasons, we have put an action plan in place to tackle that need. We have over 100 villages in our district and, in the last five years alone, have provided 290 affordable homes for local people.

• New homes in Meldreth - just one of the affordable home schemes that we've been involved in

For more information on how we are providing affordable housing sites contact our Housing Strategic Services team on 03450 450 051 or email housing@scambs.gov.uk

Bringing empty homes back into use

Empty homes are a wasted housing resource that can have a negative impact on surrounding communities and be a financial burden for their owners.

With high demand for affordable housing, and 4,800 people on the housing register, we are committed to making the most of existing housing stock and encouraging owners to bring long-term empty homes back into use.

We are developing an Empty Homes Strategy. To date, this has involved speaking to the owners of empty homes to see what help they feel they need to get their property occupied again.

We have also joined forces with King Street Housing Society to pilot an Empty Homes Grant Initiative. The idea behind the initiative is to award grants to help pay for necessary repairs, bringing empty houses back in to use through our Private Sector Leasing Scheme. Grants will be awarded at our discretion and on the basis that the homeowner enters into an agreement with King Street Housing Society to let their property to those in housing need. In return, the owner will receive a guaranteed monthly rent.

For more information visit www.scambs.gov.uk/housing or contact our Housing team on 03450 450 051 or housing@scambs.gov.uk

The Green route to the housing register

Do you know you can apply to join our housing register online?

Simply visit www.home-link.org.uk and complete the online application form. It should only take about twenty minutes to complete and can be saved at any point if you need to come back to it later.

By applying online, your application will be acknowledged more quickly, and you'll save on paper, postage and printing costs.

To enable us to fully assess your application, and to respond to you as quickly as possible, please make sure you provide all the information we ask you for. If information is missing we cannot process your application.

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Northstowe update

Refreshed plans for the new town of Northstowe went on show in October, with hundreds of local residents coming to drop-in sessions to find out more and give their views

Northstowe's joint promoters – Gallagher Estates and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) – ran the sessions, with support from our New Communities team.

Local people and councillors were pleased to see that earlier comments from residents had been taken on board, such as making facilities easier to access for people living in nearby villages.

We're now expecting a planning application for the first phase of 1,500 homes in the early part of 2012 – with formal comments from residents feeding into the decision-making process.

If you came to any of the drop-in sessions, and left your contact details with us, we're talking to the joint promoters and Northstowe Parish Forum to work out the best way to keep you informed about:

- feedback we've received so far
- future updates
- the planning and development process.

Dates, times and venues of any future events will be widely publicised and available on our website, from your local parish council and in *South Cambs Magazine*.

More information about Northstowe is available at www.northstowe.uk.com
For more information about community events and meetings, please contact our New Communities Team 03450 450 500

Councils welcome Northstowe visit

The chairman of the Homes and Community Agency (HCA), Robert Napier, visited the Northstowe site in October, meeting with leading local councillors.

Speaking after the visit, Cllr Ray Manning, SCDC Leader, said: "It was good to hear once again that the HCA is as committed as local councils to making Northstowe a reality as there is a need for affordable homes near Cambridge. However, everyone still recognises the need for improvements to the A14 to allow development of the whole town."

Ian Bates, County Council Cabinet member for growth and planning, said: "We're one of the fastest growing counties in the country and Northstowe is an important part of managing that growth. It's great to be in a position with the Guided Busway now in place, but we'll continue to work with our partners to press for action on the A14."

From left: Robert Napier, HCA chairman; Ian Bates, Cambridgeshire County Council cabinet member for growth and planning, Ray Manning, SCDC leader and Terry Fuller, HCA executive director.

Robert Napier said: "This meeting clearly demonstrated our joint commitment to delivering this new town. We hope to be in a position to submit a planning application early next year and the work we are doing with residents and councillors now will help us submit plans that are right for the area."

North West Cambridge

Thank you to everyone who took the time to comment on Cambridge University's plans for the North West Cambridge development.

The formal consultation on the planning application closed on 4 November. Both we and Cambridge City Council will now spend the next few months considering comments and working with the University on detailed aspects of its planning application. The development is due to include:

- 1,500 houses and flats for key university staff
- 1,500 houses and flats for sale
- accommodation for 2,000 post graduate students
- accommodation for elderly people
- research buildings
- a primary school and early years provision – including two nurseries
- a community centre - including medical facilities, shops, a community hall, supermarket and a hotel
- public open space, accessible to all, for sport and informal use – which will account for around one third of the site
- protection of an existing Site of Special Scientific Interest.

• 3D image showing a view from the development from the south

For more information about all major developments in South Cambridgeshire, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/majordevelopments or contact our Major Developments Team on 03450 450 500 or major.developments@scambs.gov.uk

Trumpington Meadows

Work is now well underway at the Trumpington Meadows development on the Southern fringe of Cambridge.

Phase one includes 353 houses. Twenty-nine will be in our district in Haslingfield parish; the remaining 324 will be inside Cambridge City's boundaries.

Planning permission has been granted for a primary school – incorporating a community centre – and a multi use games area that will be open for community use. Work is also beginning now to make sure that the school opens in 2012, as the first residents start to move in.

Phase two of the development is due to begin in June 2012, taking approximately two years. We expect to start early discussions with the developer about the application over the coming months, including the chance for local people to comment on the plans.

Potential sites for new housing

• The SHLAA will help to identify sites for new housing

We've started work to prepare a new Local Plan, which will set out planning policies to guide the development and use of the land in the district up to 2031.

The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) is part of the evidence base for the new Local Plan. It is a technical assessment to identify sites that are potentially suitable for housing.

A Call for Sites during June and July 2011 was an opportunity for anyone – including landowners, developers and parish councils – to put forward land that they would like to be considered for housing development.

Many more sites were received than will be needed to sustain the local economy and meet local housing needs, and a preliminary sifting has excluded those that did not meet the initial size and location criteria. Sites that did meet the initial criteria have been registered and are available to view on our website: www.scambs.gov.uk/shlaa

All registered sites will now be formally assessed to determine their potential suitability, availability and achievability for housing development.

The identification of sites as potentially being suitable for housing does not mean that they will definitely be allocated for housing in the new Local Plan. Any sites that are identified as potentially being suitable will be assessed against wider planning policy considerations.

Using these assessments, we will identify the best site options for housing development for further consideration. Public consultation on the potential site allocations will form part of an Issues & Options consultation on the new Local Plan, anticipated to take place around Summer 2012.

Only following that consultation will we decide which sites we intend to allocate for housing development in a new draft Local Plan. That plan will have to go through a further stage of public consultation and examination by an independent planning inspector before it is finalised.

For more information go to www.scambs.gov.uk/shlaa or contact our Planning Policy Team on 0340 450 500

Red Lion Pride

There is great pride at The Red Lion at Whittlesford, after completing their second project with our Building Control team.

The first, a modern 73 bedroom hotel, was a finalist in the best commercial category of the LABC Building Excellence Awards for the whole of East Anglia.

The second is the recently completed and historically grounded extension and refurbishment of the original Grade II Listed Red Lion Hotel.

Both projects have been significant and successful undertakings, especially with work taking place in close proximity to a Grade II star listed medieval chapel.

Did you know that our Building Control team can help businesses and private homeowners with green building issues? For example, work to roofs and walls can require insulation. Talking to us can help you to choose the most effective and regulation-compliant solutions. We're also the greener choice because we're your local experts, travelling fewer miles and using our local knowledge.

We can also help you with building regulation requirements for solar and PV panels if your chosen MCS installer does not have all three A, C and P qualifications.

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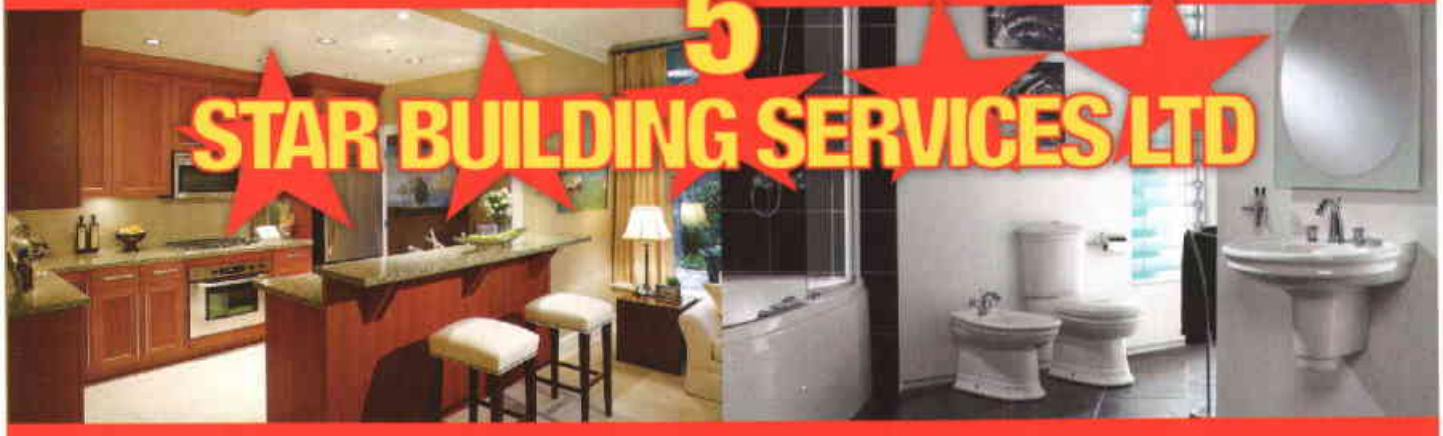

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- **Bins must be out by 7am on your collection day**

Collection one day later | Green & blue bins | Black bin | Change to collection

Monday

Babraham, Balsham, Gt Abington, Gt Shelford, Harston, Hauxton, Hildersham, Hinxton, Ickleton, Lt Abington, Lt Shelford, Pampisford, Stapleford

5 Dec	12 Dec	19 Dec	28 Dec	4 Jan	10 Jan	16 Jan	23 Jan	30 Jan	6 Feb	13 Feb	20 Feb	27 Feb	5 Mar	12 Mar	19 Mar	26 Mar	2 Apr
			Wed	Wed	Tue												

Bartlow, Castle Camps, Horseheath, Linton, Sawston, Shudy Camps

5 Dec	12 Dec	19 Dec	28 Dec	4 Jan	10 Jan	16 Jan	23 Jan	30 Jan	6 Feb	13 Feb	20 Feb	27 Feb	5 Mar	12 Mar	19 Mar	26 Mar	2 Apr
			Wed	Wed	Tue												

Tuesday

Carlton, Coton, Gt Wilbraham, Histon, Horningsea, Impington, Lt Wilbraham, Madingley, Orchard Park, Six Mile Bottom, Teversham/ Cherry Hinton*, West Wickham, West Wratting, Weston Colville

6 Dec	13 Dec	20 Dec	29 Dec	5 Jan	11 Jan	17 Jan	24 Jan	31 Jan	7 Feb	14 Feb	21 Feb	28 Feb	6 Mar	13 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	3 Apr
			Thur	Thur	Wed												

Cherry Hinton: north of the railway as Teversham

Fen Ditton, Fulbourn / Cherry Hinton*, Girton, Milton, Oakington, Stow-cum-Quy, Westwick

6 Dec	13 Dec	20 Dec	29 Dec	5 Jan	11 Jan	17 Jan	24 Jan	31 Jan	7 Feb	14 Feb	21 Feb	28 Feb	6 Mar	13 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	3 Apr
			Thur	Thur	Wed												

Cherry Hinton: south of the railway as Fulbourn

Wednesday

Bar Hill, Childerley, Chittering, Dry Drayton, Knapwell, Landbeach, Longstanton, Swavesey, Waterbeach

7 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	30 Dec	6 Jan	12 Jan	18 Jan	25 Jan	1 Feb	8 Feb	15 Feb	22 Feb	29 Feb	7 Mar	14 Mar	21 Mar	28 Mar	4 Apr
			Fri	Fri	Thur												

Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Cottenham, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Lolworth, Over, Rampton, Willingham

7 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	30 Dec	6 Jan	12 Jan	18 Jan	25 Jan	1 Feb	8 Feb	15 Feb	22 Feb	29 Feb	7 Mar	14 Mar	21 Mar	28 Mar	4 Apr
			Fri	Fri	Thur												

Thursday

Cambourne, Comberton, Croxton, Eltisley, Graveley, Hardwick, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes, Toft

8 Dec	15 Dec	22 Dec	31 Dec	7 Jan	13 Jan	19 Jan	26 Jan	2 Feb	9 Feb	16 Feb	23 Feb	1 Mar	8 Mar	15 Mar	22 Mar	29 Mar	5 Apr
			Sat	Sat	Fri												

Abington Pigotts, Arrington, Bassingbourn, Bourn, Croydon, Gamlingay, Guilden Morden, Hatley, Litlington, Longstowe, Lt Gransden, Shingay-cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden, Tadlow

8 Dec	15 Dec	22 Dec	31 Dec	7 Jan	13 Jan	19 Jan	26 Jan	2 Feb	9 Feb	16 Feb	23 Feb	1 Mar	8 Mar	15 Mar	22 Mar	29 Mar	5 Apr
			Sat	Sat	Fri												

Friday

Barton, Foxton, Grantchester, Gt Eversden, Harlton, Haslingfield, Kingston, Lt Eversden, Newton, Orwell, Shepreth, Thriplow & Heathfield, Whittlesford, Whaddon, Wimpole

9 Dec	16 Dec	23 Dec	3 Jan	9 Jan	14 Jan	20 Jan	27 Jan	3 Feb	10 Feb	17 Feb	24 Feb	2 Mar	9 Mar	16 Mar	23 Mar	30 Mar	7 Apr
			Tue	Mon	Sat												Sat

Barrington, Caldecote, Duxford, Fowlmere, Gt Chishill, Heydon, Lt Chishill, Melbourn, Meldreth

9 Dec	16 Dec	23 Dec	3 Jan	9 Jan	14 Jan	20 Jan	27 Jan	3 Feb	10 Feb	17 Feb	24 Feb	2 Mar	9 Mar	16 Mar	23 Mar	30 Mar	7 Apr
			Tue	Mon	Sat												Sat

What goes where?

• **Bins must be out by 7am on your collection day** • **Close lids firmly**

Paper only caddy

Paper

Newspapers & magazines

Telephone directories

Catalogues

Envelopes (with or without windows)

Shredded paper*

Junk mail

Jiffy bags, wrapping paper, greeting cards, tissue, cardboard & kitchen paper

* Put shredded paper in an old envelope before placing in the paper only caddy

- **Place the caddy inside your blue bin**
- **Excess blue bin material will be collected if placed alongside the blue bin in a returnable container**
- Put items loosely in the blue bin and not in carrier bags
- Rinse items to remove any food contamination

Blue bin

Plastic bottles

Plastic bottle tops & triggers

Plastic packaging (pots, trays & tubs)

Plastic bags

Plastic film & clean food wrapping

Glass jars & bottles

Food & drinks cans

Aerosols

Tin foil & foil trays

Cartons (e.g Tetrapak)

Cardboard

Polystyrene
Pyrex, flat glass, non packaging plastic e.g toys, bowls

Battery bag

Batteries inc. AA & AAA cells, button batteries, size C & D and any laptop & mobile battery

Lead acid batteries e.g. vehicle batteries

Green bin

Garden waste

Cooked/uncooked food waste (meat, fish & dairy)

Kitchen paper and tissues

Any type of cat litter
Cartons (e.g. Tetrapak) - put in blue bin
Turf and soil - due to its weight
Any type of plastic inc bags/sacks

Biodegradable bags (cornstarch, potato starch)
Corrugated cardboard - put in the blue bin
Cardboard - put in the blue bin

- Excess green bin material cannot be collected. Please compost it or take it to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centre

Black bin

Non-recyclable / non-compostable material

- Please use your black bin for material that cannot be put in green or blue bins
- Excess black bin material cannot be collected. Please take it to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centres
- Nappies should be put in the black bin
- Empty and full paint tins cannot be collected. Please take them to Milton or Thriplow Recycling Centres

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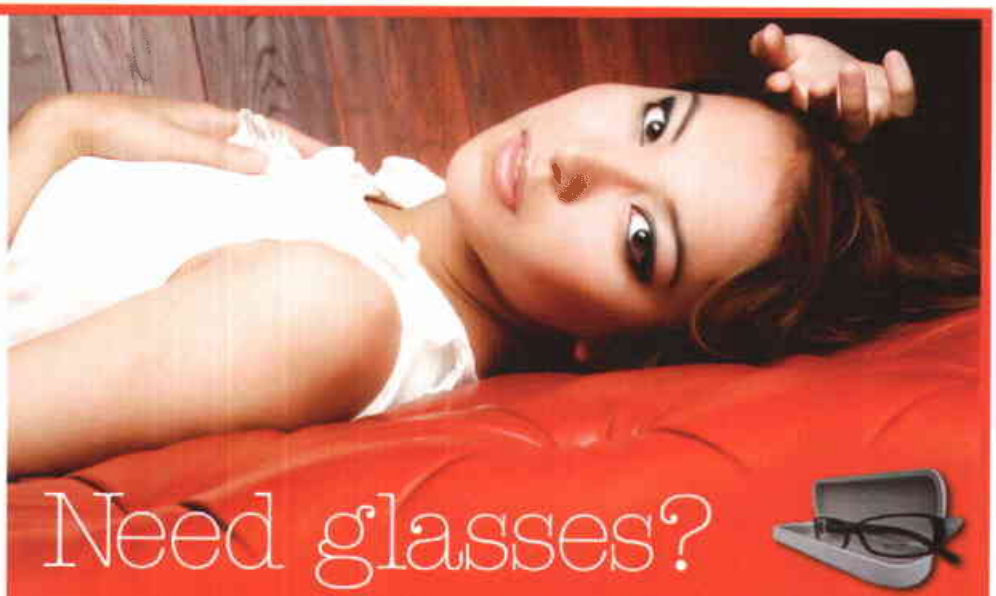

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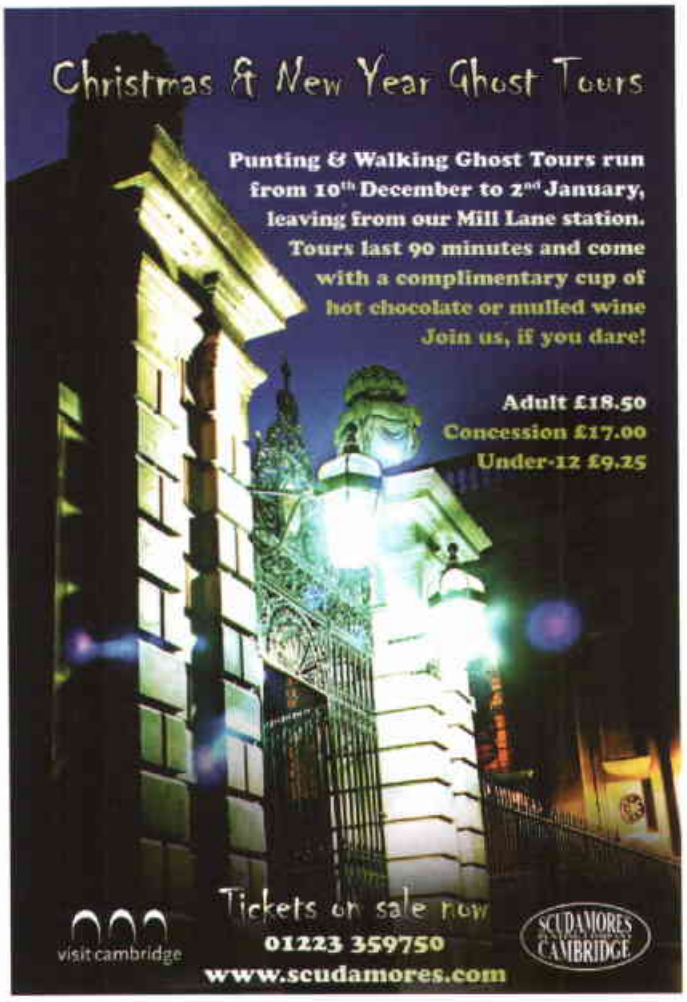
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GLASS • CANS • PLASTIC
CONSTRUCTION & TRADE WASTE

Call us for more information on how we can help your business meet its legal requirements for waste collection, recycling and disposal.

ameycespa

call: **01223 861010**
visit: **www.ameycespa.com**
Ely Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9PG

Festive recycling

More than 750,000 tonnes of extra waste is produced over Christmas in England alone. With a little thought, we can **all** reduce our festive impact on the environment.

Food waste

- Leftover food can create delicious meals, be home composted or put in your green bin. Visit **www.lovefoodhatewaste.com** for ideas on managing festive food waste.

Christmas trees

- Real trees can be cut up into small pieces and put into your green bin. You can also take them to the local household waste recycling centres at Milton and Thriplow for composting.

Wrapping paper

- Can be put into your blue bin as long as it is made from paper, but not into the paper caddy. Plastic or foil wrapping paper should go into the black bin.

Christmas cards

- Can be cut up and used as present tags for next year or put into your blue bin.

Cardboard

- Large boxes can be taken to your local recycling centre. Flattened boxes or packaging can be put into your blue bin.

Cans and foil

- Rinse them and put them into your blue bin. Remember to recycle aerosol cans.

Glass bottles and jars

- Rinse them and put them into your blue bin or take them your local recycling centre.

Newspapers, magazines and paper

- These can go into your blue bin paper only caddy.

Plastic packaging

- All plastic packaging can go in your blue bin. Remember to wash and squash.

What do I do if my bin hasn't been emptied?
Call us on 03450 450 063 by 3.30pm on the day after your bin should have been collected and we'll do our best to get it emptied for you.

Is my bin collection day different over Christmas?

Changes to all collections except Friday

- Collections during the two weeks after Christmas Day will be two days later
- Collections due on 9, 10, 11 and 12 January will be one day later

Changes to Friday collections

- Friday 30 December collections will be four days later on Tuesday 3 January
- Friday 6 January collections will be three days later on Monday 9 January
- Friday 13 January collections will be one day later on Saturday 14 January

Please see the bin collection calendar on page 24 for more information

What should I do if my green bin freezes?

Some green bins can freeze during cold snaps. To avoid this, try not to leave bins in an exposed area overnight. If your green bin has not been fully emptied because of freezing, call 03450 450 063 to let us know.

Blue-ming marvellous year

It's a whole year since households began using their blue bins, and already we're on track to recycle over 60% of household waste.

We'd like to say a huge thank you to every resident for helping to make the scheme such a success.

Since the new service began in October 2010, we've recycled more than 15,400 tonnes of recyclable material. That's a fantastic achievement.

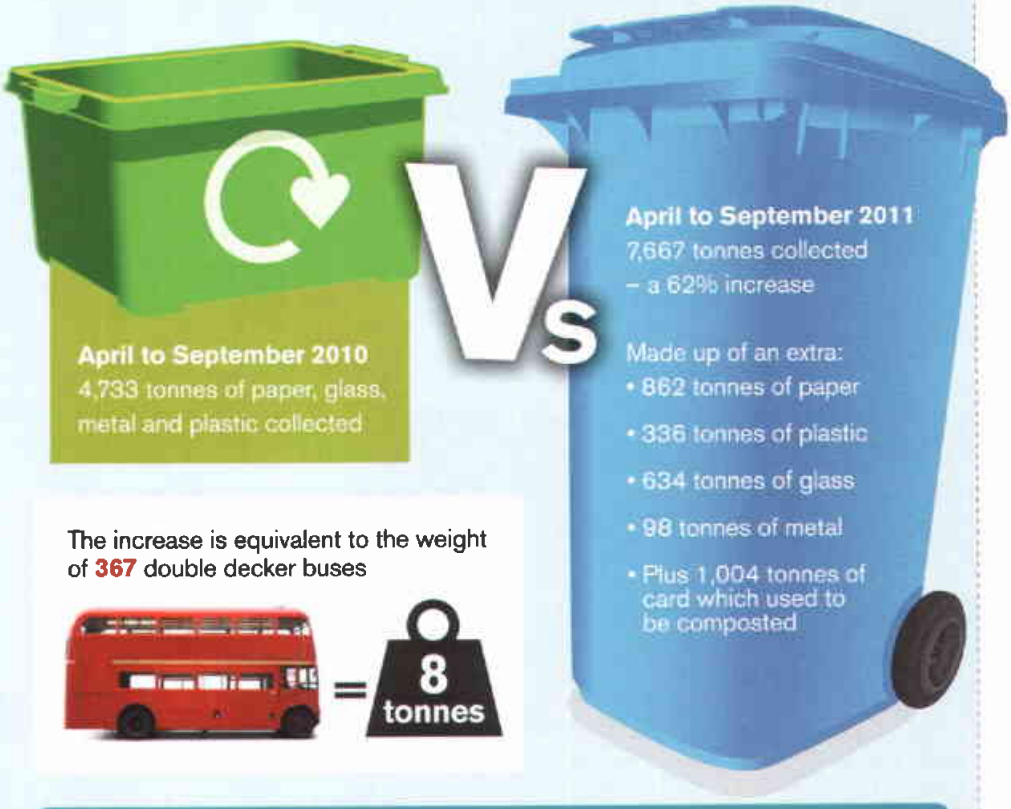
Additionally, we've recycled 1,990 tonnes of cardboard since October 2010. Instead of composting it, we sent it to board mills to be made into new boxes and packaging.

With people now using the blue bins, we have seen a 10% reduction in black bin waste – but we still need your help to slim your black bin even more

Cllr Sue Ellington, Cabinet member for environmental services said, "Blue bins really are working in South Cambridgeshire, let's all keep recycling and get those figures even higher next year."

In the last issue, we asked for your views on reducing food waste. We've had a great response but we'd still like to hear more of your ideas so that we can share them with other residents. Contact us at: **foodwaste@scambs.gov.uk**

Did you know that food waste makes up a fifth of the contents of the average black bin? This could all go into your green bin to be composted.


Vs
April to September 2010
4,733 tonnes of paper, glass, metal and plastic collected
April to September 2011
7,667 tonnes collected
– a 62% increase
Made up of an extra:
• 862 tonnes of paper
• 336 tonnes of plastic
• 634 tonnes of glass
• 98 tonnes of metal
• Plus 1,004 tonnes of card which used to be composted

The increase is equivalent to the weight of **367** double decker buses

Get in touch on 03450 450 063 or bluebin@scambs.gov.uk

Recycling 'on the go'

Did you know that over 40% of the waste we collect from street litter bins is potentially recyclable? To make it easier for you to recycle on the go, we're planning trials of street recycling litter bins in 10 village centres.

The new recycling bins will be next to general waste litter bins, so recyclable material can be separated quickly and easily.

Until now, we've only been able to landfill waste from village litter bins, but with these new bins, we'll be able to increase local recycling rates even more.

We are working with Parish Councils to find suitable locations for the bins. Look out for them soon.

If the trial is successful we'll be looking at rolling the idea out to other villages, helping everyone to recycle while they're out and about.

The blue recycling bins will be clearly labelled with what can be put into them:

- paper
- cardboard
- glass jars and bottles
- food and drinks cans
- tin foil and foil trays
- cartons
- plastic bottles, bags, film, pots, trays and tubs

New litter bins - helping you to recycle on the go.

A feast of pantomime

It's that time of year again – oh yes it is! – and drama groups across the district are having real festive fun. Here's a selection of seriously hilarious shows. For more local listings, visit **www.cambridgeshire.net** or **www.start-arts.org.uk**

• He's behind you!

• **2 to 4 December: Papworth Players' Dick Whittington at Papworth Everard Village Hall.** 7pm Friday; 1pm and 6pm Saturday and 3pm Sunday. Tickets £6/£3, family ticket £15 from (01480) 831 330.

• **6 to 11 December: Cottenham Theatre Workshop's Pirates! at Cottenham Village College.** Directed by Sue Macdonald and featuring Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf. 7.30pm and a Saturday matinee at 3pm. Tickets £7/£6 from (01954) 252693.

• **6 to 12 December: Over Players' Beauty and the Beast at Over Community Centre.** 7.15pm Tuesday; 7.30pm Wednesday to Saturday and a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets £8/£6 from (01954) 232985, 0721099146 or www.overplayers.org.uk

• **9 and 10 December: Choir 2000 with IVC and Sine Nomine present Handel's Messiah (excerpts), Bach's Chorale from the Christmas Oratorio and carols conducted by Peter Britton at Histon Baptist Church, Station Road, Histon.** 8pm. Tickets £10/£8 and £5 for students from (01223) 561635

• **7 and 8 January: The ACE Theatre Group's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Marven Centre, Sawston Village College.** 2.15pm and 7.30pm. Tickets £7/£5 from (01223) 721932

• **11 to 13 January: Little Shelford Pantomime's Peter Pan at the Memorial Hall.** 7pm Wednesday and Thursday; 7.30pm Friday and Saturday. Tickets £6/£4 from (01223) 842498

• **19 to 21 January: Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves by Chris Shinn and Juli Petrucci at Waterbeach Primary School.** 7.30pm. Tickets from (01223) 570109 or www.wcp.ticketsource.co.uk

• **27 to 29 January: Swavesey RADSOC's Babes in the Wood at Swavesey Village College.** 7.30pm on Friday and Saturday with 2.30pm matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets £7.50/£5.50 from 07504 552870 or www.swaveseyradsoc.org

stART Arts Awards 2012 – nominations please!

Do you know a local volunteer who helps to make your village a more creative, happier place to live? Would you like to see them recognised for their hard work?

Together with stART Arts Development Managers we're hosting a gala evening – featuring the best local talent – at Swavesey Village College on Wednesday 28 March 2012. Our Chairman Cllr Tony Orgee will be presenting the awards. Why not join us with your nominee?

Submit a nomination online at www.start-arts.org.uk or contact Andy O'Hanlon on 03450 450 500 for more information.

• Swavesey Folk Group performing at the 2011 awards gala

Inspiring minds

Young people from Melbourn youth club decorated Melbourn Village College's wet weather shelter with graffiti art this summer.

Part of the artsmash programme, which we support, the project saw college students contribute ideas for the artwork, including a film strip theme and village landscape as well as the new college motto, Inspiring Minds.

• Melbourn Youth Club members hard at work

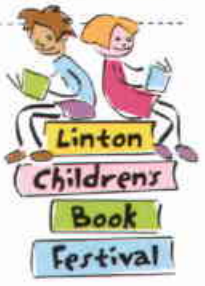
ART @theatrium

A brand new facility for exhibitions, events and performances has opened in Cottenham Village College's new sixth form centre. It is currently home to a community artwork created by Wendy Briggs – ART @ theatrium – the first of many events.

The new space is equipped with a recording studio – capable of acting as a radio station and TV broadcasting unit – a media centre and adaptable spaces suitable for a wide range of school and community events, including cinema nights, music, theatre, visual arts and much more.

To find out more, or if you're interested in running an event or activity, contact Amy Wormald (details below)

Linton Children's Book Festival 2012



The local award-winning Linton Children's Book Festival is back, with main events scheduled for 12-13 May 2012.

Exciting hands-on activities and storytimes will be going on across the village in the week leading up to the festival. If you have skills to offer, great ideas, know of someone we should invite, or you can help steward the event - please get in touch. We're also particularly keen to hear from potential sponsors to help with funding.

Visit www.lintonbookfest.org or follow the Festival on Facebook or Twitter for all the latest information

Get in touch

Contact your arts development manager for more information about local projects or events:

Comberton area
Richard Brown - richard@start-arts.org.uk or (01223) 262503 extension 267

Cottenham and Impington area
Amy Wormald - amy@start-arts.org.uk or (01954) 288748

Melbourn area
Kirstin Bicknell - kirstin@start-arts.org.uk or 07770 643165

Sawston and Linton area
Lesley Morgan - lesley@start-arts.org.uk or (01223) 712825

Swavesey area
Karen Thomas - karen@start-arts.org.uk or (01954) 234476 or visit StaRT logo www.start-arts.org.uk

If you don't have an arts development manager in your area please contact Andy O'Hanlon, lead officer for arts and culture, on 03450 450500 or arts@scambs.gov.uk

For event listings see www.cambridgeshire.net

Energise – get dancing

If you're part of a local dance group, show us your moves on Saturday 4 February at a special dance platform at Comberton Village College. A juniors' show at 3pm will be followed by a seniors' event at 7.30pm. If you'd like to take part contact April Martin on (01954) 200 533 or tutsrus@ntlworld.com.

Melbourn cemetery gates

Taking inspiration from Melbourn's Saxon heritage, artist Matthew Lane Sanderson has created a new public art work for Melbourn New Road Cemetery. The iron work gates, which refer to local archaeological finds, were commissioned by Melbourn Parish Council. The next stage of the project will include more art works, reburying of Saxon remains and a project for local young people. Contact Kirstin Bicknell (details below) for more information.

Bold as brass

Book your tickets now to hear award-winning Brighouse & Rastrick Brass Band at the Histon & Impington 2012 Jubilee Weekend Festival.

The 2010 UK Champions will be playing the festival on Sunday 3 June at 'The Big Marquee' on Histon & Impington recreation ground.

Tickets, including premium reserved seats at £15 and general seats at £12.50, are on sale now. Special early bird Christmas offer: two premium reserved seats for £25 if purchased by 31 December from www.2012jubileeweekend.com or Neil Davies on (01223) 232514.

Spring Term 2012 courses

Early enrolments welcome

call **01223 278002 NOW!**

Enrolment evening

Wednesday 4th January 2012

5.30-8.00pm

www.hillsroad.ac.uk/adultEdCourses.aspx

email: adulted@hillsroad.ac.uk

Hills Road Sixth Form College
Adult Education

For full course information:
www.hillsroad.ac.uk/adultEdCourses.aspx

Languages

New courses are shown in bold	Day	Time pm	Start	No. of	Tuition
Evening					
Arabic absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Arabic beginners level 2	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	99
Arabic improvers	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	110
Chinese absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Chinese beginners level 2	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	99
Chinese improvers	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	105
Chinese intermediates	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	110
French absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
French beginners level 2	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
French beginners level 3	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
French improvers	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	99
French intermediates	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
French advanced conversation	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	99
German absolute beginners level 1	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
German beginners level 2	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
German beginners level 3	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
German improvers	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	99
German intermediate	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	105
Greek (modern) absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	99
Greek (modern) improvers	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	105
Italian absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Italian beginners level 2	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Italian beginners level 3	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
Italian improvers	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	99
Italian intermediate	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	105
Italian advanced	Wed	6.30-8.30	18 Jan	10	105
Japanese absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Japanese beginners level 2	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Japanese improvers	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	105
Japanese intermediates	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	120
Polish absolute beginners level 1	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	99
Polish beginners level 2	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	99
Polish improvers	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	110
Portuguese absolute beginners level 1	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
Portuguese improvers	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	105
Russian absolute beginners level 1	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	99
Russian beginners level 2	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
Russian improvers	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	110
Russian intermediate/advanced	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	110
Spanish absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Spanish beginners level 2	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Spanish beginners level 3	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Spanish improvers	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
Spanish intermediates	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	99
Spanish advanced conversation	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99
Turkish absolute beginners level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	99
Turkish improvers	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	110
English as a Foreign Language (EFL)					
Business & Professional English	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	105
EFL - pre-intermediate*	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	105
EFL - intermediate*	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	105
EFL - upper intermediate*	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	105
EFL - advanced*	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	105
IELTS Preparation course	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	105

*Includes a new online placement test.

Business & Professional Training

Book-keeping: SAGE accounts-beginners	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	150
SAGE 50 accounts-intermediates	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	150
Design & build you own website - beginners (Dreamweaver CS5)	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	150
Design & build your own website - intermediates (Dreamweaver CS5)	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	150
Digital Technologies-beginners	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	99
Introduction to proof-reading	Thurs	7.30-9.00	19 Jan	8	57
Use of Microsoft Excel 2010 & file management - beginners	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	5	60
Use of Excel Excel 2010 - improvers	Wed	7.00-9.00	29 Feb	5	60

Professional Counselling

Daytime					
AQA level 4 Diploma (mandatory unit 2)	Thurs	9.30am-12.45	22 Mar	16+3 Sat.	775*
Evening					
Counselling skills - taster workshop for begs	Mon	6.15-7.45	4 Jan	1 session	20
Introduction to Counselling skills	Mon	6.15-8.45	16 Jan	8	110
AQA level 2 Certificate (fast-track)	Tues	6.15-9.00	17 Jan	21 + 5 Sat. workshops + 2 half Sats.	660*
AQA leve 4 Diploma (optional unit: Cognitive Behavioural Therapy theory)	Tues	6.15-9.30	17 Jan	11+2.5 Sat. workshops	450*
AQA level 4 Diploma (optional unit: Psychodynamic Theory)	Thurs	6.15-9.30	19 Jan	10+3 Sat. workshops	450*
AQA level 4 Diploma (mandatory Unit 2)	Thurs	6.15-9.30	22 Mar	16+3 Sat. workshops	775*

*Tuition fee **excludes** examination registration costs - please check individual course details on our website

Saturday Schools & Workshops

New courses are shown in bold Course	Day	Time pm (unless otherwise stated)	Start date	No. of weeks	Tuition fee (£)
Bee-keeping - beginners	Sat	10am-12.00	25 Feb	5+1 practical	60
Saturday 4th February					
Book-keeping SAGE 50 accounts: part 1	Sat	10.30am-4.00	4 Feb	1	45
Cooking: entertaining made easy ††	Sat	10am-2.00	4 Feb	1	85
Colour, style & make-up	Sat	10am-3.30	4 Feb	1	35***
Flower arranging - **spring flower designs**	Sat	10am-3.30	4 Feb	1	35***
Planing: right plant, right place	Sat	10am-2.00	4 Feb	1	25
Saturday 10th March					
Bicycle maintenance-spring into action	Sat	10am-2.00	10 Mar	1	25*
Book-keeping SAGE 50 accounts: part 2	Sat	10am-4.00	10 Mar	1	45
Cooking with eggs: cracking ahead††	Sat	10am-2.00	10 Mar	1	85
Clothes, accessories & image impact	Sat	10am-1.00	10 Mar	1	20**
Fascinator workshop	Sat	10am-3.00	10 Mar	1	30***
Flower arranging - for wedding receptions	Sat	10am-3.30	10 Mar	1	35***
Introduction to Indian head massage	Sat	10am-1.00	10 Mar	1	20
Saturday24th March					
Perfume blending & making natural cosmetics	Sat	10am-12.00	24 Mar	1	15**
Planting for spring interest	Sat	10am-2.00	24 Mar	1	25

*An additional £2 material fee applies to this workshop. **An additional £5 material fee applies to this workshop
***An additional £8 material fee applies to this course. †An additional £10 material fee applies to this workshop
†† These workshops are provided at the Cambridge cookery School, Purbeck Road, Hills Road

Recreational

Dance					
Salsa dancing	Mon	6.00-7.00	16 Jan	10	49****
Strictly ballroom dancing	Mon	7.30-9.00	16 Jan	10	72****
Strictly Latin dancing	Wed	6.00-7.00	18 Jan	10	49****
Health & Well-being					
Indian head, neck & shoulder massage-beg	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	8	76
Pilates - improvers	Wed	6.45-7.45	18 Jan	10	55
Pilates - beginners level 2	Fri	5.00-6.00	20 Jan	10	55
Pilates - intermediates	Fri	6.00-7.00	20 Jan	10	55
Yoga - beginners	Wed	5.30-6.45	18 Jan	10	60
Yoga Hatha-mixed ability	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Writing & Media					
Creative writing - introduction	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
Continuing creative writing	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
Continuing creative writing: an	Wed	7.15-9.15	18 Jan	10	95
Introduction to proof-reading	Thurs	7.30-9.00	19 Jan	8	57
Writing poetry - beginners	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Other					
Electronic Music Production - level 1	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	125
Singing for fun	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95†
Wine appreciation	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95††

****An additional £10 demonstration fee applies to this course. †An additional fee applies to this course for the purchase of sheet music (no more than £15) ††Additional costs apply to this course according to the wines tasted.

Art and Design

Animation design	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Art History	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Ceramics	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95*
Ceramics	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95*
Ceramics	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	95*
Creative textiles	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	95***
Drawing, the basics	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Drawing, the next step	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Illustration for picture books	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	95
Interior design	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95*
Life drawing	Thurs	7.00-9.00	19 Jan	10	95**
Painting for beginners	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Painting without boundaries	Fri	6.30-9.00	20 Jan	8	95
Painting oils & acrylics	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
Painting oils & acrylics	Fri	6.30-8.30	20 Jan	10	95
Photography digital-beginners	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95
Photography digital-beginners	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	95
Photography digital-the next step	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95
Photography-creative darkroom techniques	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95*
Photography advanced	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	99*
Photoshop CS5 (Adobe) - beginners	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	150
Photoshop CS5 (Adobe) - the next step	Wed	7.00-9.00	18 Jan	10	150
Portraiture	Tues	7.00-9.00	17 Jan	10	95**
Watercolour painting	Mon	7.00-9.00	16 Jan	10	95

*An additional £15 material fee applies to this course. **An additional £20 model fee applies to this course.***An additional £20 material fee applies to this course

SCDC OLYMPIC COUNTDOWN

OLYMPIC GAMES: FEWER THAN 250 DAYS

PARALYMPIC GAMES: FEWER THAN 300 DAYS

Welcome

...to the 11th of our London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games features.

• Cllr James Hockney, SCDC Champion for the Olympics writes:

2012 REALLY IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, and many of our local sportsmen and women will soon know if they'll be going for gold at the Olympics or Paralympics. Will you be there watching them? Don't forget, there'll be another chance to apply for Olympics and Paralympics tickets online and over the phone this winter.

I've been very busy with Olympics-related events lately. Some of my highlights have included:

- Ask 2012: one year to go - It was fantastic to hear how plans for the Olympics are coming together at this panel meeting chaired by the Olympian Jonathan Edwards.
- Paralympic Grants at Papworth Trust - I was pleased to be part of the Trust's annual grants panel and we awarded five grants to outstanding applicants.
- Elite athletes - As mentioned in the article opposite, I met a group of our best young athletes at South Cambridgeshire Hall. I'm very proud to be part of a Council that supports sport at all levels across the district.

Details of all events can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/London2012

Supporting our young athletes

• Just some of our amazing elite athletes at the latest grant ceremony

We've been supporting elite local athletes with funding for the last three years – and applications for the final round of awards for this year are now open.

Launched by Lord Coe in 2009, our Elite Athlete Award scheme has given out a total of £35,700, helping over 50 young people to reach their sporting goals.

The scheme supports athletes from the age of 12 upwards who have reached regional, national or world-class level. Funding can go towards kit, travel, training and accommodation, with grants of up to £2,000 available.

Awarding the most recent grants, Cllr James Hockney said, "These awards were launched to help support the next generation of South Cambridgeshire's sporting talent in the run up to the 2012 Games. The dedication and sheer talent of our young sportsmen and women is truly inspiring, and I'm very proud that we've been able to help so many of them over the last three years."

The final round of funding for this financial year will be considered in February. Please make sure your application arrives by Friday 17 February to be considered.

For more details contact Joseph Minutolo on 03450 450 500 or email joseph.minutolo@scambs.gov.uk Application forms can also be downloaded from www.scambs.gov.uk/london2012

Exercise on prescription

Regularly benefiting 300 local people every year, our exercise referral scheme has changed its name but not its benefits.

Active and Healthy 4 Life – formerly known as Fitness4Health – is a scheme where GPs can refer patients with conditions that benefit from exercise.

Now into its 16th year, and coordinated for us by Lynne Potter from Fitness4Health Ltd, the scheme offers personally tailored 12-week fitness programmes.

Exercise can benefit people with obesity, arthritis, high blood pressure, diabetes and depression to name but a few.

Some people need specialist help, and tailored classes have helped treat people referred by the County's Cardiac Rehabilitation and Falls prevention teams.

The scheme operates at nine village colleges in South Cambridgeshire, so there's a centre local to most residents.

Active & Healthy 4 Life

• Lynne Potter (right) with Barbara who is taking part in the scheme

To find out more, speak to your GP or contact Lynne Potter on 03450 450 500 or lynne.potter@scambs.gov.uk

Run for Fun!

Running is a safe and enjoyable way to get healthy and fit, and joining a running group is an excellent way to meet people and enjoy our beautiful district.

Over the past 18 months, we've been setting up running groups across South Cambs, and they're proving very popular.

The groups cater for complete beginners, starting with a mix of walking and running to help you build fitness at your own pace, gradually increasing to continuous running. As the group progresses, a variety of running activities are included to suit all abilities, but don't worry - new people are always welcome and catered for, whatever their ability.

Running on a regular basis can:

- make you feel good
- give you more energy
- help you sleep better
- help reduce stress levels
- keep your heart strong
- reduce blood pressure
- help manage weight.

Groups currently meet at the following venues, why not go along and start having fun.

- **Bourn Primary School** Wednesday at 9am (term time only) Contact: Hannah Hodgson at hannahhodgson@hotmail.com
- **Cambourne Monkfield Park Primary School** Friday from 9.30am to 10.30am Contact: Julie Pashley on 07971 734175 or julie.pashley@me.com
- **Cottenham Village Green** Thursday from 6-7pm Contact: Claire Strongman on (01954) 231806 or clare@cstrongman.co.uk
- **Great Abington Primary School** Monday at 9am Contact: Liz Shields on lzshlds@googlemail.com
- **Melbourn Sports Centre** Thursday from 7.30pm to 8.30pm Contact Graham on (01763) 263313 or Graham@mc-sport.co.uk
- **Over, The Exhibition Pub car park** Tuesday at 6.30pm; Sunday at 10am Contact: Claire Strongman on (01954) 231806 or clare@cstrongman.co.uk
- **Sawston Sports Centre** Beginners on Monday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm Intermediates on Wednesday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm Contact: Vikki Green on (01223) 712555 or victoriagreen@btinternet.com

Get involved: If you're interested in setting up a running group or netball team near you – or linked to a school/sports centre or other facility – please contact Helen Stepney on 03450 450 500 or email helen.stepney@scambs.gov.uk

Bulls take netball title

A record number of teams took part in our adult friendly netball tournament on 20 October – with The Bulls winning the title.

The tournament marked the start of this year's adult friendly netball league, which started playing on 3 November.

The 16 teams were either back to netball groups, social players or new to the sport, with nine South Cambs teams flying the local flag.

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young voice

We've received lots of articles from budding young writers keen to have their say on local issues that they care about.

In this edition we hear from Jessica Wright, aged 14, of Gamlingay who challenges the media's portrayal of young people:

"50% of teenagers won't get far in life because they cause trouble"

Most teenagers try their hardest to get far in life. I've always wanted to be a veterinary nurse and researched so much into the career that I created a project folder that got bigger and bigger. I even asked for extra help at school! Young people who are troublesome need positive attention not negative. They need help and support, it does not mean they have no aim in life.

"This year there are a huge number of teenagers involved in knife crime"

Not all teenagers are involved in crime! There are millions of teenagers in the world and, although some are involved in crime, it is for a variety of reasons: poverty, war-torn countries, peer pressure, and gang culture. Even though South Cambridgeshire has many rural areas, it doesn't mean we don't suffer the problems many urban areas do; more money and support needs to be put into youth provision.

"Most teenagers sit around all day doing nothing"

I have to admit that with all the modern technology these days we could be amused for hours. Many children, however, are carers for parents or siblings who suffer from mental or physical disabilities and have to fit in all this around school. Many miss out on normal childhoods. These children are amazing and stereotyping youth has to stop. Many teenagers contribute to the community and do lots of voluntary work.

I am writing this article to say that the way the press judge us is not fair. If youths have done something helpful to you or your community let the council know so they can be praised for what they do instead of being left in the shadows. Thank you.

Coming up next time...
another recipe from Theory Parker, plus Chapter 1 of Theory's adventure story and, of course, more news on our Youth Council. Keep your articles coming in. Contact Tracy Mann at the details below.

Do you know a future South Cambridgeshire Leader?

Young people are being asked to step forward to help give the younger generation a real voice in South Cambridgeshire.

We're setting up a Youth Council to help make sure the decisions that affect young people across the district are the right ones.

We aim to have a fully elected Youth Council in place by September 2012. Young people can get involved right now by being part of the group who will decide exactly how the Youth Council will run, and work with us to organise elections.

We're already asking our local village colleges and the Connections Youth Bus to help find volunteers, but we want you to get in touch directly if you, a friend, or someone you know could be part of the team to make plans for a Youth Council a reality.

Volunteers must be between 13 and 17 years old and live in the district.

More information about the Youth Council can be found on a new Facebook page – follow us at 'South Cambridgeshire Youth Council'.

Next year young people will be able to stand for election on the Youth Council, more details will appear in future editions of *South Cambs Magazine* and on Facebook.

Cllr Sue Ellington (centre) with young people at a recent Youth Council event

For more information about the Youth Council, or to nominate a young person to join the team, please contact Tracy Mann on **03450 450 500**, email youthcouncil@scambs.gov.uk or write to us at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6EA

Local entrepreneurs stepped up and won more than £30,000 worth of business support

• (L to R) Judges Gareth Brookman, Quentin Golder, Danny Bellew, Lara Kettenacker (runner up of United Brides), Cllr Nick Wright, John Bridge, Walter Herriot, Alan Blake and Carol Deslandes

• (L to R) Alan Blake, Carol Deslandes, Walter Herriot, John Bridge, Gareth Brookman, Quentin Golder, Danny Bellew

• Winners Jenny and Sophie Cattier of Cambridge Super Foods

We're only too aware of the importance of business growth and the hurdles start-up companies face in this challenging economic climate. That's why, along with business partners, we're working hard to help local businesses gain access to finance and professional business advice.

Together with private sector partners Regus, Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce, Business Link, Streets Chartered Accountants, Taylor Vinters and Ware Anthony Rust, we recently repeated our own "Dragons' Den"-style competition.

Six budding businesses made it through to the final and pitched for £30,000 worth of business backing – comprising significant private sector sponsorship – including one year's office accommodation, legal, accountancy, public relations support and business mentoring.

Jenny and Sophie Cattier were announced the winners with their "Cambridge Super Foods" business.

Judges and sponsors also generously awarded a runner-up prize to Lara Kettenacker for her business "United Brides".

Cllr Nick Wright, Cabinet member for economic development said, "The competition was a huge triumph and we wish South Cambridgeshire entrepreneurs well as they embark on their new ventures".

We're grateful to our partners and judges: John Bridge (Competition Chairman and CEO of the Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce, Walter Herriot, Enterprise and Innovation champion, Gareth Bookman (Ware Anthony Rust), Danny Bellew (Regus), Alan Blake (Streets Chartered Accountants), Quentin Golder (Taylor Vinters Solicitors) and Carol Deslandes (Business Link).

All competition participants also benefited from free workshops, as well as pre and post competition business advice and support.

If you are starting your own business or looking for advice contact Nicole Kritzinger our economic development officer on 03450 450 500 visit www.scambs.gov.uk/business and www.businesslink.gov.uk/east_england

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Treemendous stuff

We've given many communities help over the past year to establish orchards. Local people are getting involved in the planting and care of trees, and having the pleasure of eating freshly picked fruit.

Latest successes include the opening of Rampton Parish Council's orchard – alongside the village's wild flower meadow at the edge of the recreation ground – and a small orchard at Sawston Village College.

Parishes often approach our conservation team who are always happy to provide advice on wildlife surveys, fruit tree planting and orchard restoration.

The creation of community orchards is just one of the ways that we help people improve local places. Another is our Parish Planting Scheme. So far we've provided over 20 specimen oak trees to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and create natural landmarks for the future.

An ongoing success is our hedgerow planting pack, now nearing its tenth year. This encourages landowners, particularly the farming community, to plant more hedges, adding to the beauty of our local landscape.

We promote access to the countryside through work with partners including Parish Councils and the Wildlife Trust. We also support traditional orchard planting at the Cambridge Past, Present and Future charity's countryside reserve in Coton.

Our countryside and green spaces provide a rich variety of places for people to visit, enjoy, work and exercise; and we're committed to supporting green spaces for the benefit of local people and wildlife.

❁ (ABOVE) The local community working together on Rampton Parish Council's orchard

❁ (INSET) (L to R) John Culpin, principal Sawston Village College; Jean Hunter, SCDC chief executive; Ros Richardson, SCDC trees and landscape officer; Cllr Ray Manning, SCDC leader; Cllr Tony Orgee, SCDC chairman; Cllr David Bard, SCDC vice-chairman and local councillor for Sawston and Pauline Buchanan Black, director general of The Tree Council.

For more on our environmental initiatives and conservation work, visit www.scambs.gov.uk/conservation or contact our Conservation Team on 03450 450 500 or conservation@scambs.gov.uk

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Can you give these cats a new start?

Greening your homes

To help achieve a greener future for our housing stock we've been looking at how we can reduce our carbon emissions and the problems tenants face in terms of fuel poverty, particularly in areas with no mains gas.

We've carried out surveys of non-gas properties to measure the extent of fuel poverty in our homes. The results are still being analysed but it is clear that this is a significant and worrying problem for our tenants.

In the last 12 months we've successfully fitted 66 air source heat pumps (ASHP), and we're now installing them when oil boilers breakdown. We've also started to install thermal hot water systems. An innovative external cladding system for non-cavity walls reduces heat loss through walls by up to 80% and we're using this in some of our homes too.

Our five year maintenance budget has been focused on providing high insulation levels on all properties and efficient low running cost heating systems.

As a result of requests we've held some workshops to help our tenants make sure they are on the correct energy tariffs and are using the right settings for electric heating.

We've also installed some multi-fuel heating systems and log burners in non-gas areas as pilot projects.

We'll continue to take advantage of grant funding as it becomes available. To date we have been successful in bidding for a number of grants and are building up a range of heating and insulation solutions for our homes. We've contributed to a number of bids in partnership with other organisations and are waiting to hear news of funding for innovative heating pilot projects. These projects include biomass boilers and ground source heat pumps – we'll keep you informed.

• (MAIN & RIGHT INSET) **Hildersham houses before and after: innovative external cladding could reduce heat loss from these houses in Hildersham by up to 80%**

• (LEFT) **Thermal imaging can show how much heat a house is losing – the more red areas, the more heat is being lost**

Tenants Disability Forum and UK Disability History Month

UK Disability History Month (UKDHM) (22 November – 22 December 2011) takes place each year and focuses on the history of disabled people's struggle for equality and human rights. We're supporting this event and working with our tenant led Disability Forum to promote it.

This year's theme is 'Celebrating our struggle for equality'. Our Chief Executive, Jean Hunter and Disability Forum chairman, Chris Maitland recently attended a timely event in Cambridge, featuring Fredrick W Maitland – a relative of the chairman – who wrote about liberty and equality in 1874.

• **Chris Maitland, Disability Forum chairman with SCDC chief executive, Jean Hunter**

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Two-bedroomed house at The Causeway, Bassingbourn

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for local people

Metropolitan Home Ownership, the affordable homes experts, are building at two new developments in South Cambridgeshire. The developments at Bassingbourn and Cambourne have two and three-bedroomed houses available for those who need a little extra help to get on the property ladder, with the help of our popular Shared Ownership scheme.

Three-bedroomed semi-detached house at The Mallards, Cambourne.

Bassingbourn

The brand new two-bedroomed houses at The Causeway in Bassingbourn are designed for home buyers with local links, who do not currently own a property and are in need of affordable housing, including those leaving the armed forces.

You can buy a 50% share of a two-bedroomed town house at The Causeway for £94,500, which enables those earning less than £60,000 to buy half the property while paying rent on the remaining share they do not own. And to help more, carpets and floor coverings throughout your new home are included within the price.

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You can't beat moving into a brand new home when the finishing touches include a fully fitted kitchen as well as carpets and floor coverings throughout the property.

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For further details or to arrange a viewing contact Mark on

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Metropolitan Home Ownership

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Opening up blocked fireplaces – a note of caution

With increasing energy bills, many people are considering opening up fireplaces and installing an open fire or wood burning stove.

Such changes to SCDC homes will need our permission. Normally this will be given, but it is essential that you do the following:

- tell us what you are proposing
- get your chimney swept and smoke tested before it is used
- make sure any work is carried out by a HETAS ** qualified installer.

You need to be aware that some of our properties have had chimneys removed, shortened or capped during maintenance works, so you must have this checked before you have any work carried out.

If a stove is fitted, unlined brick chimneys will probably need a stainless steel liner as part of the installation, and a suitable hearth and adequate ventilation are essential.

On completion of any installation you must provide us with a copy of the HETAS Certificate.

** HETAS is the official body that approves solid fuel domestic heating appliances, fuels and services, including the registration of competent installers and servicing businesses.

Response repairs contract update

We've awarded the contract to Mears Ltd who provided us with the top tender in terms of both quality and price.

Mears are one of the UK's leading social housing repair and maintenance providers. They will now be looking to set up an operational base in the district to run their own in-house 24/7 contact service.

The new contract arrangements will include extended normal working hours of between 8am-8pm Monday to Friday and 8am-1pm on Saturday. There will also be a more flexible approach to appointment slots.

The contract will start on 2 April 2012 and staff from both SCDC and Mears will be working together to ensure a smooth and seamless transition of the service for tenants.

A big thank you

With the response repair contract moving to Mears, the Tenant Participation Group would like to publically thank council officers at the DLO for all their years of service and hard work in keeping our homes in good order.

Pick of the bunch

Congratulations to all our Best Kept Garden competition winners. You can see pictures of all the winning gardens on our Facebook page. Look out for information about next years' competition in the next *South Cambs Magazine*.

• Great Shelford scout hut kitchen before and after

SCDC contractor refurbishes community kitchens for free

Two kitchens used by local communities have been refurbished for free by Borras Construction Ltd. The firm, which wanted to give something back to the community, has refurbished kitchens and bathrooms in our tenant's homes since 2007.

The two kitchens are at the Pavilion in Whittlesford and the Scout Hut attached to the Memorial Hall in Great Shelford. Both were in poor condition.

The Scout Hut in Great Shelford is used by playgroups, Cubs, Brownies, Guides, Scouts and Explorers and is hired out for family or children's parties. It is also used as a base by the Shelford Feast for a week every year – so it's a facility used by the whole community.

The Guide leader said of the refurbishment, "Fantastic! It looks so much bigger! We'll have to make sure those Scouts tidy up after them!"

Whilst a Cub commented, "Wow! Looks like a real kitchen!"

We hope that the kitchens will provide many years of service to both communities. A huge thank you to Borras.

Emergency call outs over winter

Last winter a number of emergency call outs were delayed because heating engineers from our contractor, Morrison, were attending what turned out to be non-urgent calls from tenants.

Morrison Staff are trained to help. They understand that many people do not understand how heating systems operate, and work with tenants to identify the problem.

When you contact the Morrison helpdesk on 0845 6500 065 (local rate) you will be asked some simple questions to help with your reported problem, such as checking if you have sufficient gas and electricity credit available, whether your boiler and heating controls are turned on, or finding out where a leak is coming from.

Please note that the emergency callout service we offer is a "make safe" service. The engineer who attends will leave your property safe but may not be able to repair your gas heating system at the time of their visit.

A large number of non-emergency calls during the evenings and weekend means that genuine emergencies and call-outs to vulnerable tenants with real problems wait longer than necessary.

• Emergency call-outs go up over Winter for our heating engineers

If we find a call was not a valid emergency, a minimum charge of £50 may be made to cover the cost of an unnecessary visit.

Garage survey update

Thank you to everyone who completed our recent garage survey. Early results show that:

- 73% of you were aware that both council and private tenants could rent our garages
- 50% agreed that rents are fair
- 73% would like cheaper rents for the elderly and disabled

We're currently appraising our garage sites and will report back in a future issue.

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107HJ181751	to	107HJ181800	£50
108HE358971	to	108HE359020	£50
109TR183991	to	109TR184040	£50
110ZQ634321	to	110ZQ634370	£50
111ZY212261	to	111ZY212310	£50
113EY581871	to	113EY581920	£50
114KN888561	to	114KN888610	£50
115QH812321	to	115QH812370	£50
118RH365841	to	118RH365890	£50
120WL251071	to	120WL251120	£50
121QZ480281	to	121QZ480330	£50
122SX923171	to	122SX923220	£50
123VV721942	to	123VV721991	£50
124QL721931	to	124QL721980	£50
127AD563681	to	127AD563730	£50
128GJ602181	to	128GJ602230	£50
129CV318011	to	129CV318060	£50
130CJ497021	to	130CJ497070	£50
130YH493051	to	130YH493100	£50
132AZ749201	to	132AZ749250	£50
132XY756601	to	132XY756650	£50
133XP046901	to	133XP046950	£50
134SL556191	to	134SL556240	£50

Your Premium Bond holding and values are continued on the next page

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136PM601021	to	136PM601070	£50
137JZ601571	to	137JZ601620	£50
138PB609331	to	138PB609380	£50
139JG674991	to	139JG675040	£50
140KX087251	to	140KX087300	£50
141LG316651	to	141LG316750	£100
142HD252831	to	142HD252930	£100
143ZK041601	to	143ZK041700	£100
146YN371671	to	146YN371770	£100
148CX873041	to	148CX873140	£100
149CY298841	to	149CY298940	£100
150SW618681	to	150SW618780	£100
152JW548571	to	152JW548670	£100
154DE438171	to	154DE438270	£100
155PS141911	to	155PS142010	£100
156RD044501	to	156RD044600	£100
157SL906961	to	157SL907060	£100
158SS376161	to	158SS376260	£100
159PM859006	to	159PM859105	£100
160NA147641	to	160NA147740	£100
161NT570991	to	161NT571090	£100
162NG569991	to	162NG570090	£100
163LH803771	to	163LH803870	£100
164MJ340661	to	164MJ340760	£100
165NV612971	to	165NV613070	£100
166SR484391	to	166SR484490	£100
167WM488181	to	167WM488280	£100
168VW040101	to	168VW040200	£100
169ZB669471	to	169ZB669570	£100
171DF084201	to	171DF084300	£100
172GQ527201	to	172GQ527300	£100
173LL787861	to	173LL787960	£100
174PH988956	to	174PH989055	£100
175TA904951	to	175TA905050	£100
176KN895981	to	176KN896080	£100
177MT781996	to	177MT782095	£100
178KL870244	to	178KL870343	£100
179LZ144721	to	179LZ144820	£100
180GJ948909	to	180GJ949008	£100
181CK969821	to	181CK969920	£100
182BX469739	to	182BX469838	£100
183AE499680	to	183AE499779	£100
184BW045043	to	184BW045142	£100
185DM538700	to	185DM538799	£100
186GV824276	to	186GV824375	£100
187LY236642	to	187LY236741	£100

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Dear Mr Pellew

Register now for your place at the Education Leaders @ BETT conference - 11-12 January 2012, Olympia Conference Centre, London (priority code: ELD2)

Michael Gove speaks of encouraging school leaders to innovate, taking advantage of greater autonomy to drive continuous improvement. Gove has challenged leaders to work to identify talent more zealously, collaborate more intensively and raise aspirations and standards. **How successfully is your school responding?**

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- sharpen your understanding of the changing landscape for school finance and autonomy
- maximise the power of student data to drive improvement
- motivate and retain your best staff
- future-proof your school with improved succession planning
- develop your leadership skill set
- rapidly adapt your school for English Baccalaureate success

Key speakers include:

- **Steve Munby**, *Chief Executive,* National College for School Leadership
- **Heath Monk**, *Chief Executive, Future Leaders*
- **Tim Oates**, *Chair of the Expert Panel,* National Curriculum Review
- **Martin Doel**, *Chief Executive,* National Association of Colleges
- **Russell Hobby**, *General Secretary,* National Association of Headteachers
- **Christine Blower**, *General Secretary,* National Union of Teachers
- **Mary Bousted**, *General Secretary,* Association of Teachers and Lecturers

Conference places are FREE OF CHARGE but spaces are LIMITED, so please register right away to avoid disappointment. Visit **www.bettukleaders.com/register** and enter the priority code: ELD2.

See overleaf for more...

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When you register for the Education Leaders conference you will automatically gain **free access** to the **co-located BETT exhibition**. First held over 25 years ago, BETT is the world's largest and longest established showcase of the technology solutions designed to transform learning, teaching and education administration.

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As a leader, you will have trusted staff members leading the procurement and deployment of the technology products and services that can improve learning outcomes and improve the efficiency of your school. But you will continue to be involved in signing off major purchases, will want to be persuaded of the pedagogical value of anything your school invests in and will be keen to keep abreast of the latest developments in educational technology.

BETT offers the world's most comprehensive one-stop-shop for helping your discharge these responsibilities.

- Experience the latest technology in use – try, evaluate and compare before you buy
- Benchmark prices and capabilities – the most comprehensive expo in the world

Refresh your technology knowledge and strategy

Learn Live is a programme of around 100 seminars, workshops and discussion sessions, covering every aspect of the use of technology in schools and across education systems. Sign up for special sessions for leaders and encourage your teachers and ICT staff to attend the sessions which meet your school's technology CPD needs.

VIP treatment for leaders

BETT is huge – 30,000 visitors and around 700 exhibiting organisations. Conference delegates will be offered time-saving VIP exhibition orientation tours.

Registering for The Education Leaders Conference gives you automatic free entry to BETT. For more information on the conference programme and speakers please visit www.bettukleaders.com.

We look forward to welcoming you to the conference and the show in January.

The BETT team

PS. Don't forget to tell your colleagues and staff about BETT. They can also register for free entry at www.bettshow.com/register

BETT LEADERS

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CONTENTS

3 Update from Ray Barker, BESA
4 Terry Freedman – why technology cannot be ignored
6 Making learning relevant to the 21st century
9 Learn Live: Leaders
12 Opinion - Tim Oates
14 Opinion - Heath Monk
17 Try before you buy at BETT
21 Opinion - Elizabeth Inman
23 Opinion - David Haw
24 BETT 2012 Exhibitors

Welcome to BETT Leaders

A free magazine for school leaders packed with insightful articles on the opportunities and challenges facing school and college leaders. **Tim Oates**, appointed by Michael Gove to lead the expert panel of the National Curriculum Review, **asks whether increasing school autonomy is creating curriculum chaos or securing curriculum coherence**. **Heath Monk**, Chief Executive of Future Leaders, **asks what headship looks like today and challenges you to think about how others can be encouraged to take up the role**. **Jim Wynn** of Promethean discusses **how to keep learning relevant for 21st century pupils**. BETT Leaders also features articles from headteachers on issues including smart ICT investment and challenges around funding and staffing.

Register for free entry to the show
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EDUCATION LEADERS@ BETT
11-12 Jan 2012, OLYMPIA, LONDON

The Education Leaders conference will be held alongside BETT on the 11-12 January at the Olympia Conference Centre, once again offering school and college leaders the opportunity to meet, learn from and enter discussions with leading figures from UK education and from education systems around the world.

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See the centre page pull-out for more information on the conference programme and speakers...

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Understanding the challenges and opportunities facing leaders

Ray Barker, BESA

2011 has marked a potential new era for education. This has seen leaders seeking to understand the changes, along with the new challenges they present, and to maximise opportunities with the resources and budgets available. There is little argument that ICT is firmly established in the learning environment, but the sector continues to be in flux; the academies bill, capital funding, teaching schools, the curriculum and of course, budgets have all been subject to change. BETT's continued success over the past 27 years has been due to its ability to support the education sector in getting the best from what is available and understanding how to manage such changes.

So let's look at these current issues that are causing the most concern for school leaders at the moment...

Academies Bill

It was academy status that was the dominant issue throughout our annual Secondary and Primary Focus Groups. 23,000 schools have been invited to apply for academy status, some have already converted, while others are still weighing up the advantages and disadvantages.

It certainly appears that the government aims to make academy status the norm for all schools in the future. Therefore the question for many school leaders is when they will make the change, rather than if. The main challenge will be making the best decision for the school at the right time and, of course, this decision centres on the financial feasibility of the change.

Becoming an academy would remove responsibility for provision of support in certain areas from the local authority. Alternative cost-effective providers of the local authority's services must be found. These include special educational needs (SEN) and disability support, behaviour support, child and adolescent health and social care services, emergency contingencies, training, payroll support, and facilitation of school networks. Schools can buy back these services from the local authority (in fact it may not be long before we see local authorities as exhibitors at BETT) but they will also have the opportunity to source services elsewhere, possibly in collaboration with other schools in the area. For leaders, the most challenging concerns are those based on the legal requirements of the conversion to academy status.

Firstly, although under the Academies Bill there is no legal requirement for a school to carry out a statutory consultation, common law may impose an obligation. Other aspects to consider are the employment of staff who were previously employed by the local authority. This will require a Transfer of Undertakings (TUPE) consultation. Although no minimum period for statutory consultation is set, schools that have already submitted a formal request to become an academy are likely to have begun the consultation. However, it is the issue of teachers' pensions that is likely to be tricky for schools, as the new employer, the school itself would have responsibility for administering the pension scheme.

Support for school leaders considering the change to academy status is vitally important, as is the ability to ensure that procurement decisions for central services are as cost-effective as possible. BETT provides a focal point for leaders to meet and share experiences with peers. For those seeking the best procurement solutions, the show offers the opportunity to compare service providers in order to understand all available opportunities. Within the Education Leaders @ BETT conference (11-12 January) Rosie Simmons, headteacher at Levenington Primary Academy and Steve Munby, chief executive at the National College are just two speakers sharing their experiences and advice. For more information visit www.bettukleaders.com/

An on a final note regarding the academy bill, schools in need of refurbishment or a re-build, but who missed out on the previous government's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) funding, may want to consider their options carefully. Once a school has become an academy, there is no additional money to support new buildings or refurbishment to existing buildings.

Capital funding

Although approximately 500 BSF building projects already under way are expected to be completed, and £15.8bn has been promised 'to maintain the school estate and rebuild and refurbish 600 schools,' it is incomparable to the previous government's promise to rebuild or refurbish all 30,000 secondary and primary schools.

Many may assume that suppliers into the BSF programme, such as furniture and IT managed service providers, would be feeling the negative effects of the changes but quite the opposite appears to be the case. Many of these suppliers found that the procurement structure of the BSF programme meant that they were often excluded, due to the size and complexity of the project or the lack of a relationship with the local education partnership (LEP). However, now that decision making is devolved, schools are able to have greater involvement in procurement decisions, having the freedom to make their own decisions based on their school's needs.

With budgetary constraints there is a danger that initial price point takes precedence over quality and durability. Simply put, the cheapest resource may be more expensive in the long term and schools need to be able to compare the total cost of ownership on all resources, from IT hardware to educational software. Only by evaluating products in one place on the same day can you compare quality and price effectively, making informed decisions about how to invest wisely. The 'Find Suppliers' section on the www.bettshow.com website enables you to find a list of all exhibitors supplying the specific products and services you are looking for, facilitating comparisons between suppliers to ensure that all purchasing decisions are well-informed.

Teaching Schools

Another important consideration for many school leaders at the current time is whether to become a teaching school. The recent Schools White Paper outlined plans to raise standards and improve the quality of teachers and school leadership through school-to-school support and peer-to-peer learning, with a national network of teaching schools. School leaders from establishments judged to be 'outstanding' can now add to their areas of responsibility by supporting and assuring initial teacher training and professional and leadership development for teachers and leaders in their area.

Of course there are many schools that have already adopted this model because of the support they offer to other schools in the area, particularly their primary feeder schools.

The volume of extra work that this entails is not yet fully understood. Initial pilots have been positive but come with the recommendation that there should be a slow build up to the teaching school model, to make sure the development is expanded in a way that is manageable for schools.

If only the challenges facing school leaders were limited to these decisions! On top of deciding the status of their school, leaders now have to consider the implementation of the new curriculum.

Curriculum change

Just after BETT this year Michael Gove announced a review of the National Curriculum for both primary and secondary schools in England.

At the time of launch he stressed that this review would be conducted in a way that is open and outward-facing with regular updates on its progress. It remains the DfE's intention to carry out a full public consultation on the final drafts of the Programmes of Study early in 2012. Little is known of what this new curriculum will look like, however, we do know that the first phase being considered looks at the core subjects of English, mathematics, science and physical education.

Not only are school leaders waiting to understand the significance of the changes, they will also be looking to the sector's publishers for guidance on how and when they will be able to provide learning support material to meet any new requirements. At BETT 2012, the majority of these publishers will be on stand to share their understanding of the issues and the solutions they have on offer. Suppliers including Cambridge University Press, Hodder Education, Macmillan Education, Nelson Thornes and Scholastic will be at the show to offer guidance on how resources can help school leaders meet the challenges presented by a brand new curriculum.

Technology has become embedded in virtually every aspect of learning. In fact, the results of BESA's annual research into ICT in schools indicated that by 2012/13 nearly half of all schools anticipate more than 50 per cent of pupil-time will be exposed to teaching and learning using ICT.

What the future may hold

Ultimately, ICT funding in schools may no longer be ringfenced but the increasing role that technology plays in industry – and leisure – means that it must be woven throughout the fabric of learning. Many educators are concerned at not yet having a government policy for ICT in schools and, although one is currently being developed, all indications are that future curriculum policy will be far less prescriptive. In short, educators cannot look to the Department for Education for detailed guidance and must use what they have learned from the embedding of ICT over the past 15 years to move forward.

Schools are showing their continued reliance on ICT by demanding even more training for their staff in order to make more use of their existing infrastructure, hardware and software. Teachers require more digital content, more access to the internet and more mobile solutions, not only to achieve best value, but also to meet the needs of young people in the digital age. Continued investment in ICT is necessary to stop a new form of digital divide being created between schools. Pioneering schools and academies do not subscribe to the 'wait and see' theory and BETT, as the world's largest education technology event, is designed to help education continue its forward motion.

Visitors at BETT wanting advice and guidance on who to talk to at BETT should visit the BESA Information point in the main hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Key issues for school leaders – why technology cannot be ignored.

We find ourselves in the midst of great change in education. It was ever thus, of course, but this time the challenges for the school leader in terms of ICT are probably more profound than they have ever been. Indeed, we can readily identify several issues which would be interesting (in the Confucian sense) individually, and which are far more so when combined.

First, there is continuing uncertainty about the official view of the importance of educational technology in the curriculum. This has arisen because of a number of factors, including the abolishment of the Harnessing Technology funding, Becta and the Building Schools for the Future programme. The absence of ICT from either the expected core National Curriculum or the e-BAC has done nothing to assuage such doubts.

Nevertheless, Government spokespeople and MPs continually recognise the importance of technology in education. In my view, the withdrawal of the props we've become used to should be seen as an indication of the Government's confidence in schools to decide for themselves what to do with ICT.

And therein lies the rub: what to do with ICT? Even more fundamentally, what is ICT and what should it be? There is a growing dissatisfaction with the present ICT Programme of Study (some of it justified, some not), and a look towards alternatives such as computer programming, game-making or a greater emphasis on creative expression – or a combination of all three.

Alongside this is the feeling that ICT should be taught across the curriculum rather than as a discrete subject. This is appealing, although a trawl through the many failed attempts to teach not just ICT but English, numeracy and economic literacy across the curriculum should be enough to convince anyone of the truth of Edmund Burke's observation that "Those who don't know history are destined to repeat it."

Terry Freedman

For what it's worth, my view is that school leaders should decide for themselves what sort of ICT education is best for their school and then put into place whatever's necessary to make it work – bearing in mind the need, at least for now, to meet the requirements of the ICT Programme of Study.

The cost of maintaining high levels of investment in ICT infrastructure, hardware and software is a third challenge, especially unwelcome in these austere times. Fortunately, there are alternatives which deserve investigation, notably leasing, cloud computing, allowing pupils to bring their own devices, and using free or low-cost software such as Web 2.0 and open source. None of these approaches is without its difficulties, but at least there are now viable alternatives to spending a small fortune on "kit" every three years.

> *"School leaders should decide for themselves what sort of ICT education is best for their school"*

A fourth challenge lies in the realm of CPD. Teachers and other staff need to keep their ICT skills up-to-date, but what is the most cost-effective way of doing so? The BETT show, and its seminars, are a good start, but for ongoing professional development some schools have profitably experimented with models like sharing ideas in staff meetings and other less usual approaches.

So, several challenges with no "right" answers. One thing is certain: technology will continue to be important in education. It cannot be ignored.

Terry Freedman is an independent educational ICT consultant. He publishes the ICT in Education website at http://www.ictineducation.org and the Computers in Classrooms newsletter at http://www.ictineducation.org/newsletter

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Making learning relevant to the 21st century

PROMETHEAN

Jim Wynn is Chief Education Officer at Promethean

"Having been a teacher, a head teacher and then a technology and education strategist, I know one absolute truth: Productivity is the key to improving our education systems across the world." Jim Wynn, chief education officer at Promethean, explores how making learning relevant for students using technology increases productivity and creates a more natural, intuitive classroom experience.

Students learn most effectively when they are actively engaged and content is made relevant to their lives and the world around them. Technology can support this way of learning and make the classroom a more varied and interactive experience.

School children today are using technologies that have created unprecedented changes in learning and in their lives generally. Young people now learn through technology before they even enter the classroom and it is vital that schools exploit enthusiasm for learning in this way.

Technology makes learning relevant

Today's schoolchildren are accustomed to using technology at home and they bring this knowledge into the classroom, so it is important that schools tap into this way of learning. As professor Stephen Heppell has being saying for years: "It is quite ironic that we ask children in a lesson on communications to power down their most common communications tool before the lesson can even begin."

The latest technologies allow students to collaborate using multi-touch capabilities which echo the technology they are already familiar with, such as smartphones and tablet devices like the iPad. This makes the experience much more intuitive and natural and engages pupils in the lesson. Schools can exploit the enthusiasm for learning in this way by involving technology in more difficult subjects, or by linking far away cultures to the classroom using images, video and sound, making the content relevant to students' lives.

Technology prepares young people for the future

Technology is, and will continue to be, vital to the future economy and schools need to ensure that their pupils are prepared for this. Making technology a natural, integrated fit within the classroom reinforces STEM values, making learning relevant for 21st century students and preparing them for the workplace. The government has recognised

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Technologies such as Promethean's Learner Response Systems increase inclusivity, encouraging different types of learners of varied levels of confidence

The latest technologies, such as the ActivBoard 500, allow students to collaborate using multi-touch capabilities which echo the technology they are already familiar with

the ubiquity of technology and its importance within the workplace, and is promoting qualifications in subjects such as computer science to support its initiative, and schools can play their part in supporting this.

Technology creates productivity

Schools can synchronise technology with other resources to provide many more opportunities for dialogue within the classroom. Not only does this have benefits for developing social skills, but it makes learning more interactive and memorable. In addition, it increases inclusivity, encouraging different types of learners of varied levels of confidence.

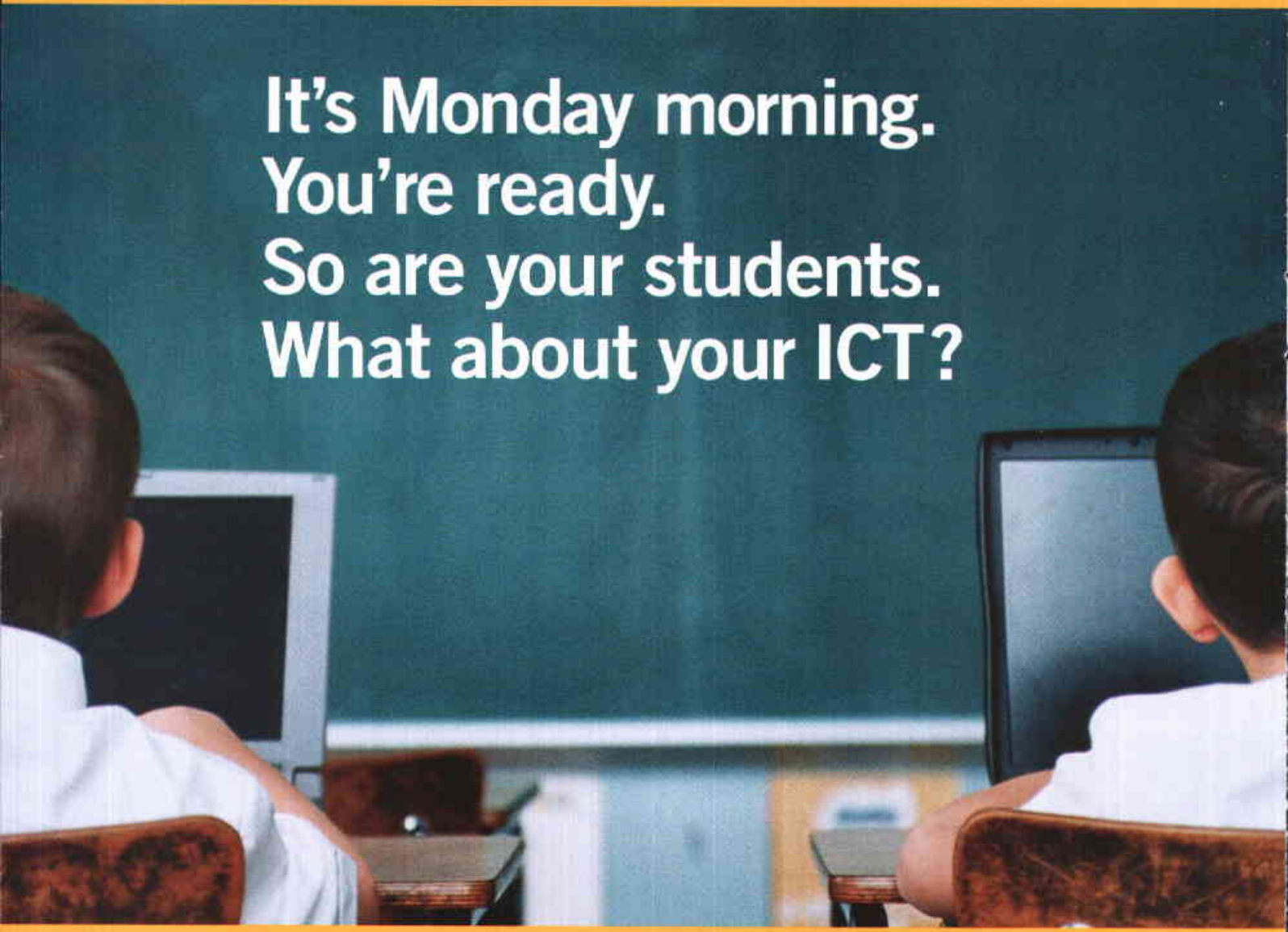
Technology is no longer 'nice to have' – it is a vital investment that improves the very productivity of learning and using the students' own technology is a real possibility in school environments. Schools need to offer the tools, technology, vision and environment that will help them produce the leaders and successful adults of tomorrow.

Productivity is the key to improving our education systems and I believe technology is a pivotal way of supporting this.

Promethean & BETT 2012

BETT 2012 will herald the start of a new direction for Promethean. In a departure from previous years, Promethean will be approaching BETT with a new vision, a solution-orientated ethos and a broad portfolio of supportive content and community solutions to meet the changing demands of the market. School visitors have the chance to rediscover Promethean and see it is more than an Interactive Whiteboard company.

For more information, visit Promethean's BETT 2012 microsite at www.prometheanatBETT.com



Sound familiar?

And then when it is ready, there are those nagging reliability issues; the all too frequent calls to tech support and those time consuming reboots. Let alone the sheer noise and heat generated by the average classroom PC.

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BETT 2012 11–14 January, Olympia, London

LEARN LIVE seminar programme: the Leaders track

The Learn Live programme on the BETT show floor offers a wealth of insights, inspiration, and practical ideas for school and college leaders. The sessions are aimed at those seeking guidance on issues as diverse as raising attainment, the impact of social media, new approaches to STEM subjects and commissioning cost-effective new learning spaces.

Educators have seen a lot of emphasis placed on the capacity of ICT to transform learning and school systems, but in the current climate where ringfenced funding no longer exists and Local Authority influence has diminished, leaders need to justify their ICT investments and make informed decisions that will truly benefit learning and improve efficiency in the long term.

To provide some guidance, the Learn Live sessions will allow school and college leaders to see genuine results behind ICT initiatives that have been fully integrated into school life. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about:

- Practical toolkits for the effective use of ICT
- Embracing new technologies in a learning environment
- Preparing students for the modern workplace
- Using and managing data effectively
- Successful implementations of ICT in overseas education systems

A taste of what to expect from Learn Live...

What role should ICT play in compulsory education in the 21st century?

Dr. Peter Twining, Director, Vital & Senior Lecturer, Open University

Over the last 20+ years there has been a great deal of hype about the potential of ICT to transform schooling and substantial investment in 'educational' ICT. Whilst there is evidence that ICT can have a positive impact on learning it is also widely acknowledged that the scale of impact does not correspond with the rhetoric or level of financial investment. In the current financial climate and a context in which head teachers have greater responsibility for spending decisions, future investments in ICT will have to justify themselves in terms of cost effectiveness. The challenge is how to weigh up the relative benefits of different 'educational' investments. This session explores these issues, and provides a framework for thinking about the impact of educational innovations, with a particular focus on ICT. The intention is to help head teachers (and others) to make informed decisions about further investments in 'educational' ICT.

Developing a multi-media centre in a small school: from vision to reality

Rachel Tilden Walker, Chair of Governors & Becky Ellers, Headteacher, Steeple Claydon Combined School

Steeple Claydon School have re-modelled their building to match their vision for learning and extend and enrich their curriculum. They now have a multi-media centre and amphitheatre to create an exciting and creative environment in which to deliver the International Primary Curriculum. Find out how they have moved from vision to reality, creating a successful bid for extended services funding and designing a solution that can be fully integrated into school life. You will have the opportunity to hear from all stakeholders in the process, and engage in discussion about its impact on learning, lessons they've learnt, implications for long term use and the potential to transform learning.

Embracing new technologies: sharing leaders' journeys

Mike Briscoe, Director, IET Associates & Hannah Jones, Founder & Director, Connecting Learning

Innovative use of new technologies exists on the fringes of education and is driven by creative leaders and practitioners who argue that the key challenge is to shift the focus away from what people should know and onto what they should be able to do with their knowledge. The journey of exploration and development of innovative practice is littered with obstacles and challenges. This seminar will describe some school leaders' journeys - how they informed their vision, what their drivers were, and how they achieved their planned desired outcomes. Hosted by Hannah Jones and Mike Briscoe, the session will include contributions from successful head teachers and a panel session in which participants can explore the ideas and concepts presented by these leaders.

...continued on page 10 ▶

...continued from page 9

LEARN LIVE seminar programme: the Leaders track

Confirmed Learn Live sessions at BETT 2012...

SESSION NAME	SPEAKER
What role should ICT play in compulsory education in the 21st century?	*Dr. Peter Twining, Director, Vital & Senior Lecturer, Open University*
Developing a multi-media centre in a small school: from vision to reality	*Rachel Tilden Walker, Chair of Governors & Becky Ellers, Headteacher, Steeple Claydon Combined School*
Embracing new technologies: sharing leaders' journeys	*Mike Briscoe, Director, IET Associates & Hannah Jones, Founder & Director, Connecting Learning*
Broad Community educational partnerships to build the science and technology workforce of the future	*Norman Lee, MindSet - Manitoba Network for Science and Technology (Canada)*
Helping schools through the process of ICT self review, strategic development and action planning: simple tools that make a difference	*Lydia Johnson, Educational Advisor, Essex County Council*
Research evidence on the capacity of ICT to transform teaching and learning: a view from a BSF school	*David Haw, Deputy Headteacher, Oxclose Community School*
Delivering the promises ICT makes for school improvement and personalised learning - leadership is the missing link	*Mats Rosenkvist, CEO, InfoMentor; Graham Cotgreave, Learning Consultant & Dr Sveta Mayer, Research Partner*
Studying the efficacy of integrated tools designed to streamline student administration across a public school system	*Dr. Tyrone Bynoe, Associate Professor of Education, University of the Cumberlands*
How to manage the use of social media in schools	*Leon Cych, Social Media for Schools CIC*
RaiseOnline For dataphobes - using data to raise attainment and drive progress in primary schools	*Caroline Zwierzchowska-Dod, Deputy Headteacher, Monkfield Park Primary School*
Tinkering: a new model of ICT and STEM learning for schools	*Sylvia Martinez, President, Generation YES*
Motivating students for science, technology, engineering and maths education	*Alexa Joyce, Senior Corporate Development Manager, European Schoolnet*
Safe and sound: school leaders' experiences of four key areas of e-safety	*Mike Briscoe, Director, IET Associates, Paul Shoesmith, Director, IET Associates & Hannah Jones, Founder & Director, Connecting Learning*

Correct at time of going to press

You can view the full Learn Live programme on the website www.bettshow.com. Sessions will be available to book from mid-November.

Please note: Sessions can fill up fast. For your BETT badge number and free entry to BETT, visit www.bettshow.com/register and enter the priority code 'LEADER'.

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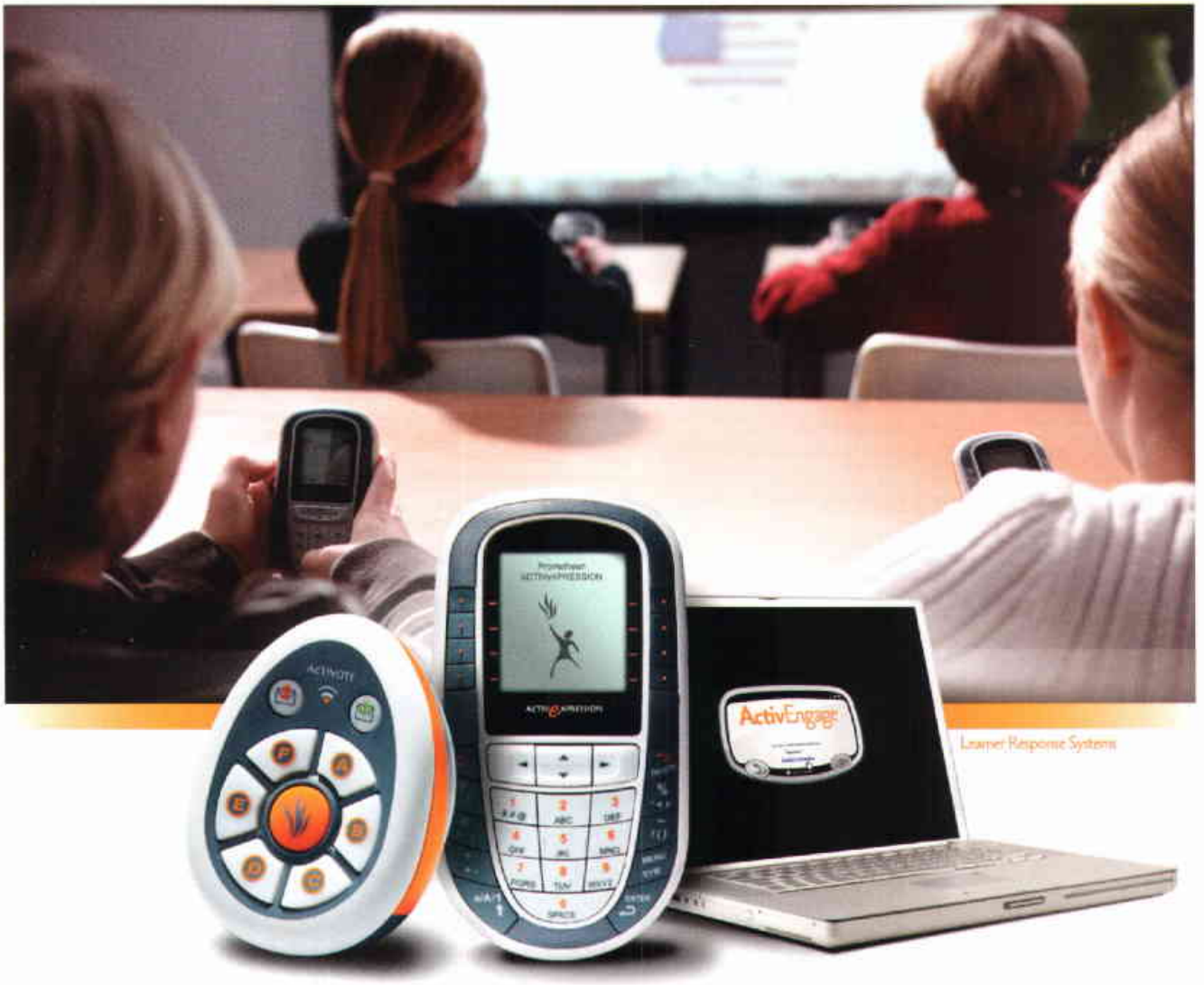

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www.PrometheanWorld.com/BETT

PROMETHEAN

Increasing school autonomy: creating curriculum chaos or securing curriculum coherence?

In contrast to previous decades, when few jurisdictions possessed national curricula, we have an opportunity to look across high performing systems and examine the key elements of their arrangements. The large national surveys (PISA PIRLS and TIMSS) give us data references for system trends, while sensitive comparative studies allow us to understand better how certain nations attain Bill Schmidt's 'curriculum coherence'. Curriculum coherence occurs where a national curriculum has content arranged in an order which is securely based in evidence associated with age-related progression, and all elements of the system (content, assessment, pedagogy, teacher training, teaching materials, incentives and drivers etc) lines up, acting in a concerted way to deliver public goods. The balance of autonomy and curriculum control varies in different national settings, and curriculum control – essential for curriculum coherence – is achieved through very different approaches.

While history and context bring about necessary variation in policy approaches, the existence of a national curriculum – or set of common standards – emerges as an important common feature of high-performing systems. Alongside this it is vital to distinguish the role of national curricula in specifying conceptual and factual content, and the role of teachers in developing motivating teaching and learning. The importance of teacher professionalism in devising learning programmes optimised for specific groups cannot be overstated. There exists here a vital balance between autonomy and control – a balance played out in different ways in different national settings – which gives rise to a key question: what is the right balance for England?

Tim Oates

Chair of the expert panel, National Curriculum Review

Group Director of Assessment Research and Development, Cambridge Assessment

October 2011

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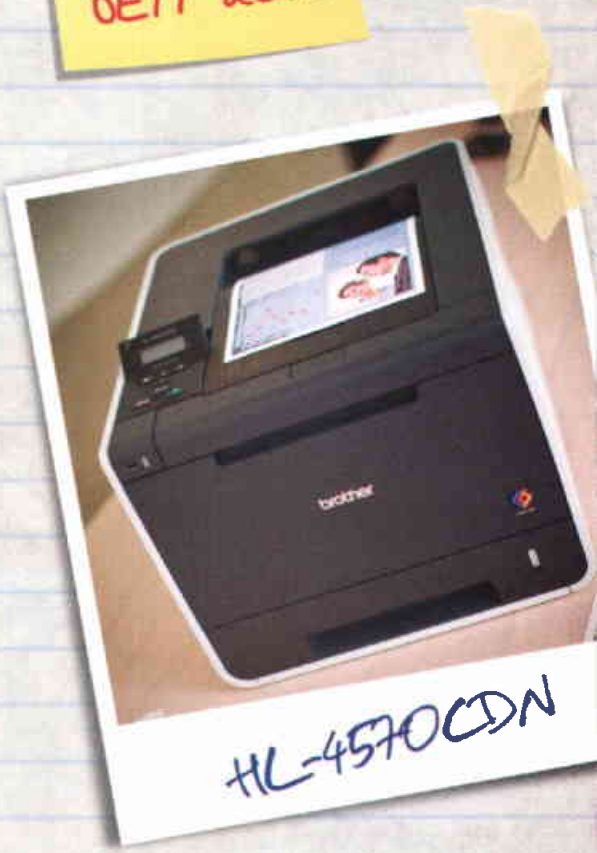

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What does headship look like now and how can you encourage others to take up the role?

It's the first term of the school year and, already, schools are facing a raft of changes – a new inspection framework, a curriculum review and revised accountability measures, not to mention the introduction of the first group of free schools and the on-going transition to Academy status. And, of course, there is no respite in the demands placed on Heads to achieve more – despite fewer resources. The widespread social unrest during the summer has only heightened these expectations, on top of the usual attack on standards that accompanies improvements in pass rates at GCSE and A level.

How should school leaders and teachers respond to this barrage of challenge and criticism? By shrugging their shoulders and accepting that schools simply cannot deliver all that society expects of them? Or by continuing the drive to ensure that every child, whatever their background, is given the opportunity to succeed.

The evidence is clear that school leadership is, over time, the most determinative factor on pupil outcomes, which makes it even more of a concern that there is a significant shortage of quality school leaders, with schools in the most challenging circumstances the most acutely affected.

If we are to significantly reduce the attainment gap, we need to ensure that strong, effective and experienced leaders who have the motivation and drive to take on the UK's most challenging schools are given the support and training that they need to make a real and lasting impact. There may be simply no other alternative.

Heath Monk
Chief Executive, Future Leaders

BETT LEADERS SPONSORED BY PROMETHEAN Learning Never Ends Stand B30

EDUCATION LEADERS@ BETT

11-12 Jan 2012, OLYMPIA, LONDON

Networking & Discussions for Leaders in Education

The Secretary of State for Education speaks in terms of empowering school and college leaders to innovate, taking advantage of significant autonomy and taking the initiative to drive improvement. Mr. Gove has challenged leaders to work to identify talent more zealously, work to collaborate more intensively and work to raise aspirations and standards. In the context of difficult economic circumstances, how are leaders responding successfully to these challenges?

The Education Leaders @ BETT conference will offer school and college leaders rich opportunities to accelerate the development of the strategies they are building to ensure they are taking advantage of new freedoms, while dealing with the related challenges. Held alongside the BETT exhibition, the conference will provide a platform for leaders to exchange ideas on the rapidly changing landscape in which they must operate and excel.

Delegates will have the opportunity to meet, learn from and enter discussions with leading figures from UK education and from education systems around the world, including:

- Steve Munby, Chief Executive – National College for School Leadership
- Caroline McDonald, Cabinet member for Children's Services – London Borough of Southwark
- Paddy Bradley, Director of Schools and Learning – Swindon Borough Council
- Martin Doel, Chief Executive – National Association of Colleges
- Heath Monk, Chief Executive Officer – Future Leaders
- Russell Hobby, General Secretary – National Association of Headteachers
- Christine Blower, General Secretary – National Union of Teachers
- Mary Bousted, General Secretary – Association of Teachers and Lecturers

The focus for the discussions and networking includes:

- **Adapting successfully to the changing inspection regime**
- **Sharpening your understanding of the changing landscape for school finance and autonomy**
- **Maximising the power of student data to drive improvement**
- **Motivating and retaining your best staff**
- **Future-proofing your school with improved succession planning**
- **Developing your leadership skill set**
- **Rapidly adapting your school for English Baccalaureate success**

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CONFERENCE DAY ONE

WEDNESDAY 11th JANUARY

Registration and refreshments

Opening session

OFFICIAL BETT OPENING & EDUCATION LEADERS KEYNOTE SESSION

Chair's opening remarks
Ministerial Address - Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, Secretary of State for Education
BESA Welcome Address – Dominic Savage Director General, **BESA**
The Best Educational Ideas in the World: Adventures on the Frontiers of Learning
Dr. Gary Stager, Executive Director, **The Constructivist Consortium**
Platinum Sponsor Address - Technology? Only if it delivers whole school improvement!
Gareth Davies, Managing Director, **Frog**
Billy Downie, Headteacher, Streetley School, **Walsall**

Morning sessions

EDUCATION LEADERS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
Participants to include:
Mary Bousted, General Secretary, **ATL**
Russell Hobby, General Secretary, **NAHT**
Martin Doel, Chief Executive, **National Association of Colleges**
Dale Bassett, Research Director, **Reform**

MASTER CLASS SESSIONS
Learn from detailed briefings on key issues facing schools and colleges today:
Enhancing the Employability of your Students: Working with Partners in Industry and Commerce
Martin Doel, Chief Executive, National Association of Colleges
Adapting to the Changing Inspection Regime
Frank Norris, Divisional Manager: Education, Ofsted

MASTER CLASS: Adapting to the Changing Inspection Regime
Frank Norris Divisional Manager: Education - **Ofsted**
Understanding the shifting definition of an 'outstanding' school – gain insights about how inspection is set to change and how you can ensure your school continues to excel.

Lunch & VIP Exhibition tours

Afternoon sessions

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Moderated by Jane Powell, Managing Director, **Shift Learning**
Opening presentation by Christine Blower, General Secretary, **NUT**
Panel discussion participants to include:
Catherine McDonald, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, **London Borough of Southwark**
Ian Budd, Director of Lifelong Learning, **Flintshire County Council**
Paddy Bradley, Director of Schools and Learning, **Swindon Borough Council**
Dr. Tony Breslin, Chair, **Human Scale Education**

MASTER CLASS SESSIONS
Learn from detailed briefings on key issues facing schools and colleges today:
Academies: Using Data to Meet your Every Child Matters Obligations
Rosie Simmons, Headteacher, Leverington Primary Academy
Improving Communication Between School and Parents
Neil Bradford, Deputy Head, Featherstone High School

VIP exhibition Tours

Conference end day one

Exact timings to be confirmed. The full programme will be made available on **www.bettukleaders.com**
Speaker and session details correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change.

EDUCATION LEADERS@ BETT

11-12 Jan 2012, OLYMPIA, LONDON

Over the two days Education Leaders @ BETT will cover a broad range of pressing issues and topics that affect leaders in education today. Presentations, expert panel discussions, and master classes focusing on key themes will be provided to enrich and inspire delegates with information and ideas to take back to their organisation.

THURSDAY 12th JANUARY

Registration and refreshments

Morning sessions

USING TECHNOLOGY TO TRANSFORM TEACHING AND LEARNING

Moderated by Hannah Jones, Founder, **Connecting Learning**

Opening presentation

Children, Computing and Creativity

Dr. Gary Stager, Executive Director, **The Constructivist Consortium**

Sponsors presentation

SMART Technologies

Panel discussion participants to include

Steve Kirkpatrick, Deputy Headteacher, **Willow Tree Primary School**
David Haw, Deputy Headteacher, **Oxclose Community School**
Gareth Medd, Director of Inclusion, **Heaton Children's Services**
Richard Everett, ICT Officer, Strategic Development, School Improvement & Early Years, **Essex County Council**
Sheyne Lucock, General Inspector (IT), Children's Services, **London Borough of Barking and Dagenham**

EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

Panel discussion participants include:

Steve Munby, Chief Executive, **National College**
Heath Monk, Chief Executive Officer, **Future Leaders**
Brian Lightman, General Secretary , **ASCL**
Fergal Roche, Managing Director, **The Key**
Joan McVittie President, ASCL & Headteacher - **Woodside High School**
Caroline Zwierzchowska-Dod, Deputy Headteacher, **Monkfield Park Primary School**

IMPROVED SUCCESSION PLANNING

Presenters include:

Jonathan Block, Headteacher, **The Thomas Alleyne School**
Daniel Roberts, Deputy Headteacher, **saltash.net Community School**

Lunch & VIP Exhibition tours

Afternoon sessions

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT: ADAPTING TO CHANGE

Opening presentation by

Mark Dawe, Chief Executive, **OCR**

Panel discussion participants include

Anastasia de Waal, Deputy Director, **Civitas**
Chris McShane, Headteacher, **Winton School**
Lee Pace, Deputy Headteacher, **Havergal CofE Primary School**
Chris Waller, Professional Officer, **Association for Teaching Citizenship**
David Anderson, SENCO & Maths Leader, **St. Christopher's Catholic Primary School**

MASTER CLASS SESSIONS

Academies: Using Data to Meet your Every Child Matters Obligations

Rosie Simmons, Headteacher, **Leverington Primary Academy**

Improving Communication Between School and Parents

Neil Bradford, Deputy Head, **Featherstone High School**

Conference end

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Steve Munby [1]
Chief Executive – National College

Martin Doel [2]
Chief Executive – National Association of Colleges

Heath Monk [3]
Chief Executive Officer – Future Leaders

Frank Norris
Divisional Manager: Education – Ofsted

Christine Blower
General Secretary – National Union of Teachers

Russell Hobby
General Secretary – National Association of Headteachers

Mary Bousted [4]
General Secretary – Association of Teachers and Lecturers

Brian Lightman [5]
General Secretary – Association of Schools and College Leaders

Caroline McDonald
Cabinet Member for Children's Services – London Borough of Southwark

Paddy Bradley
Director of Schools and Learning – Swindon Borough Council

Ian Budd
Director of Lifelong Learning – Flintshire County Council

Dale Bassett
Research Director – Reform

Dr. Tony Breslin
Chair – Human Scale Education

Fergal Roche
Managing Director – The Key

Mark Chater
Director of Programmes and Education – Citizenship Foundation

Gareth Medd [6]
Director of Inclusion – Heaton Children's Services, Bradford

Anastasia de Waal
Deputy Director – Civitas

Richard Everett [7]
ICT Officer, Strategic Development, School Improvement & Early Years – Essex County Council

Sheyne Lucock
General Inspector (IT), Children's Services – London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

For the full list of conference speakers visit **www.bettukleaders.com**

REGISTER TO ATTEND

Education Leaders @ BETT is free to attend but spacesare limited, so apply for your place now at www.bettukleaders.com/ register and enter the priority code: ELD2

Because the capacity of the venue is limited we are only able to guarantee places to delegates with the following job roles:

- Head teachers/principals
- Senior DfE officials
- Local authorities' heads of children's services
- Local authorities' executive councillors for children's services & education portfolio holders
- Leaders of Academy and Free School sponsors/stakeholders and schools' trusts
- Senior officials of teachers' and head teachers' trades unions
- Senior representatives of teachers' associations and organisations
- Leading representatives from associations of parents and governors
- Leading academics from universities' departments of education'
- Leaders of non-departmental public bodies
- Parliamentarians with a special interest in education and technology
- Leading education sector analysts and commentators
- Leading researchers from policy institutes/think tanks

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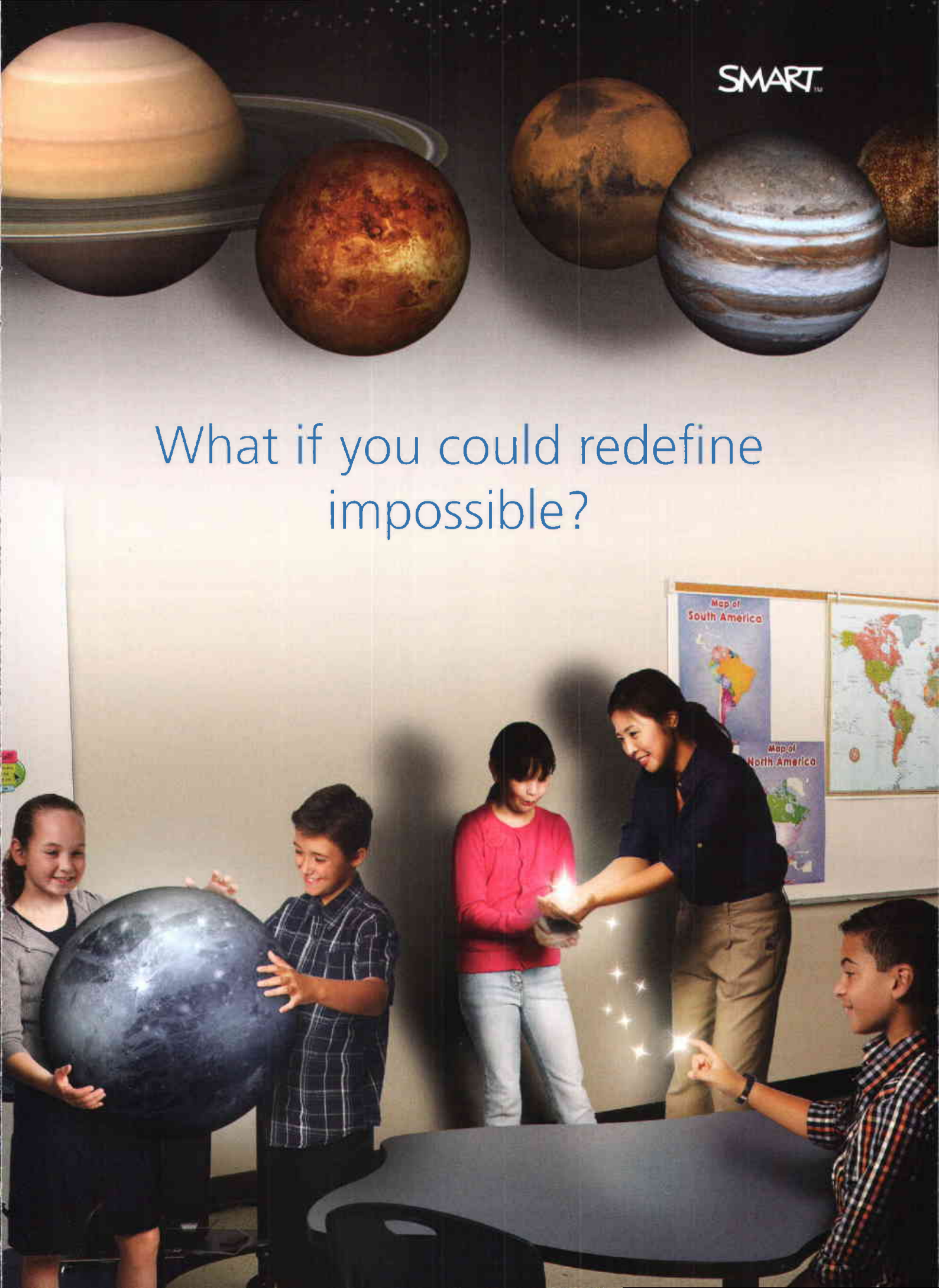
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Try before you buy at BETT

School leaders are under pressure to ensure the best return on their investment and thus will want to touch and test and thoroughly review the range of solutions on offer at BETT. So what highlights can you expect to see?

Alongside curriculum-specific resources, hundreds of exhibitors will be showcasing products and services relevant to a whole school, management level – here is a pick of what's on offer...

IML Technology recommends its product, Double-Take Availability, for educationalists so they can offload some common tasks from the production system entirely. For example, since the secondary school system contains an up-to-date replica of production data, it can serve as a platform for creating backup tapes without affecting production operations by forcing everyone to log off the production system. IML suggests that if everyone who is involved in providing a quality education can enjoy uninterrupted access to the vast landscape of interconnected data management systems that keep information flowing in real time, students will learn more. Check out their offering on **stand K56**.

Intended to be a valuable resource for educational personnel, the launch of a new website, www.massineducation.co.uk may well prove useful to leaders attending BETT. According to MASS, the website will help you to keep up-to-date with ICT and how it affects education. White papers on the topics that are impacting you can be downloaded, as well as many other features. **MASS** are at BETT on **stand J59**.

Saving time and money has always been important to leaders; perhaps even more so in the current climate. **NetSupport Assist** on **stand E100** could prove a cost-effective and efficient way for teachers to manage and engage with their students in a Mac and Linux environment. NetSupport recognises that today's students have access to an increasingly wide range of technology. It has responded to the challenges faced by teachers by extending its range of classroom management solutions to ensure they have the tools needed to monitor, interact and engage with their students, whatever the environment. With NetSupport Assist, teachers can centrally instruct students from their computer. From registering attendance at the start, monitoring activity during, and logging off machines at the end of the lesson, NetSupport Assist could help teachers to focus their time and attention on their students, rather than on managing the software.

...continued on page 18 ▶

Try before you buy at BETT

...continued from page 17

ParentMail, the UK's leading school-to-home communications service used by over 5,000 schools, has announced the launch of an iPad package for primary schools which it will showcase for the first time on **stand A16** at BETT 2012. The new package brings together the company's electronic communications and payment suite with an innovative portable dinner register - all installed and supplied on an iPad.

For schools, budgets are tight and cashless catering systems have an initial implementation cost. Many schools therefore continue to log dinner money manually, which can be cumbersome and time consuming. ParentMail's iPad package, which is leased on a monthly basis, offers a more affordable way of tracking pupil's lunch payments whilst enabling effective school-to-parent communication and increased functionality. Parents top up their child's dinner money account online or via their smart phone. Then, in the school canteen, caterers select an image of the particular pupil buying lunch and the system automatically deducts the cost of the meal from the child's ParentMail account. The iPad also gives schools other useful 'portable' features. For example, it can be used to take card payments from parents anywhere in the school.

TOP-TEC on **stand G46** is launching its new Discovery secure desk range at BETT 2012, specifically designed for schools to enhance the deployment of IT and media in the classroom. Launched exclusively at BETT 2012 it includes media enabled teacher's desks, versatile IT desks as well as standard desks. Each retains all the functionality and contemporary styling of the customised desking and media lecterns supplied by TOP-TEC to universities, in a range more suited to schools.

Traka on **stand M16** is a specialist in intelligent access management. Mark Szczyrba, ICT Administrator, Abraham Guest School, Wigan Clients commented: "When we were creating our ICT strategy, Traka more than fulfilled this with its managed laptop locker and software solution. Instantly I'm able to account for all resource laptops right across the school at just the click of the mouse." Traka's lockers for schools provide a solution to managing the use, and safe storage, of laptops within a self-managed automated system. At the forefront of this is its RFID tagging technology, which uniquely identifies each laptop making it individually accounted for. With RFID tagging you immediately know if a laptop is in its locker and precisely when it was taken and returned, and by whom.

Each Traka system is fully integrated with cashless catering software, making it easier to administer from one system. Students can identify themselves with proximity tokens, smart cards or biometrics, and the automated system allocates the student a fully charged laptop either for a lesson or for a term, as dictated by the system administrator. As well as laptops, Traka's lockers can accommodate iPads or any other data terminals. Traka will be holding demonstrations throughout BETT on stand M16.

For more information on what exhibitors will be showcasing at BETT for leaders, see the Find Suppliers section on the BETT website **www.bettshow.com**

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ICT investment, funding and staffing: just some of the challenges faced by today's educators

Our children are facing exciting futures which we can only begin to imagine. Deciphering the benefits of the extensive range of technologies on offer is just part of the challenge that we as educators face – but what an opportunity!

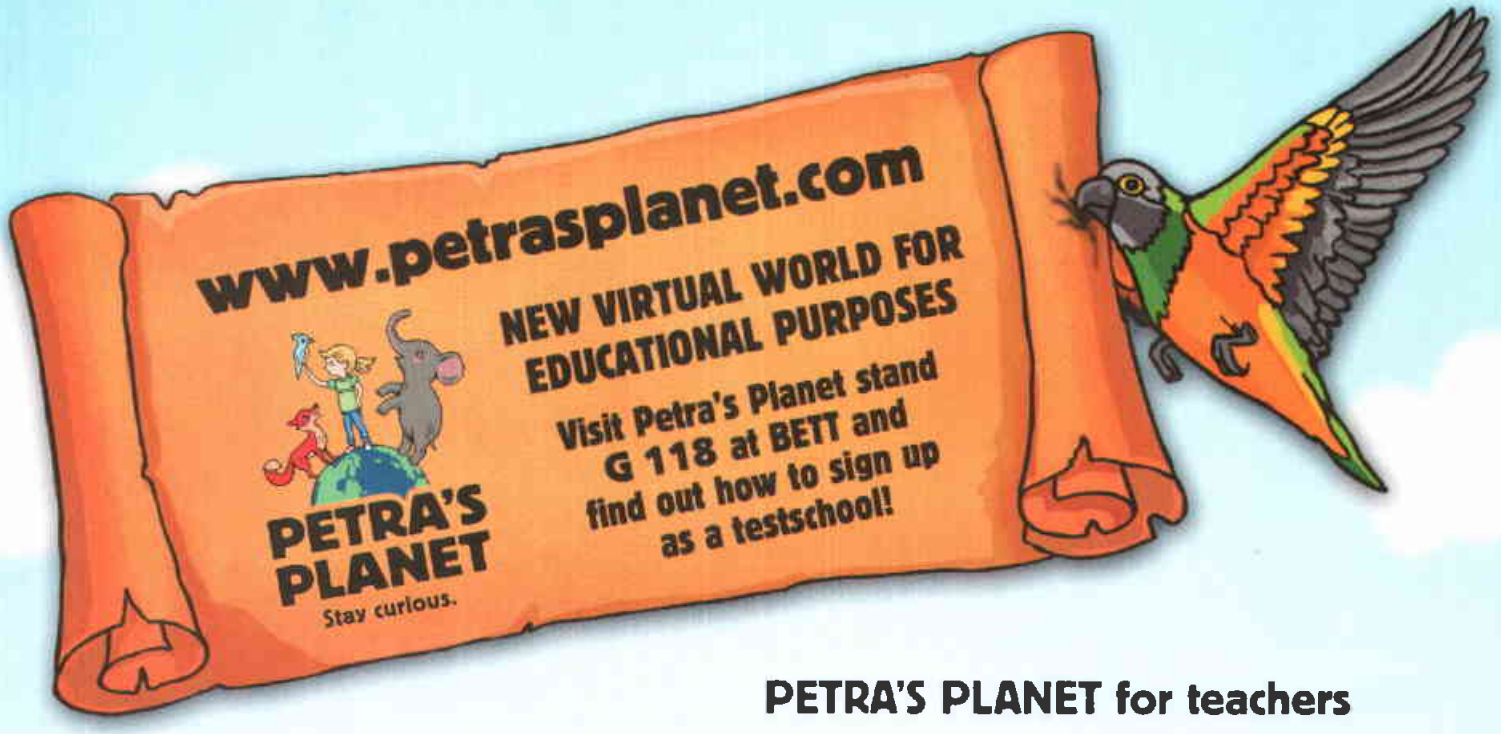
As a Headteacher I'm excited by the role that technology plays in enhancing our children's learning but I'm also excited by the motivation it can bring to my talented teaching staff who often work extremely long hours with a more limited career structure than in the past. Investing in technology is vital for ensuring that our children not only achieve the best possible learning outcomes at school, but also so that they're prepared for life after school where technology plays such a significant role in so many jobs and professions.

Unfortunately, the uncertainties of future funding we face make it difficult to know how much money we will have access to in the coming years. This obviously makes the planning of a sustainable future problematic, but not impossible. As leader of a Voluntary Aided school, funding is a constant battle as we struggle to raise the necessary 10% of capital costs, whilst spending over £2,000 incurs VAT.

Funding will always be an issue for school leaders but it's in no way the only challenge we're tackling on a day to day basis. We are also facing up to the legacy of a prescriptive curriculum which has left a young workforce less equipped to deliver a knowledge based curriculum due to their training having been largely skill based.

As leaders, coming together at BETT 2012 to share our experiences, thoughts and advice, gives us the ability to face these and many other challenges head on and put us in the best possible position to succeed.

Elizabeth Inman,
Headteacher of St Simon's Catholic Primary School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Dramaforum Oy Ltd is an international media company specializing in children's products, including Petra's Planet virtual world and Petra children's books.
www.dramaforum.fi/en

Aligning ICT investment with improved learning outcomes: What leaders need to know

It is almost received wisdom that the use of ICT will transform teaching and learning and that the only limiting factor is cost. Some believe that by spending our increasingly tightened budgets on innovative products our classrooms will be enhanced to such a degree that learning outcome levels will increase beyond recognition (or a least the targets we have published with Governors and expected by RaiseOnline).

There is a considerable evidence base that this is indeed possible. However, educational research repeatedly throws up findings that suggest the impact of ICT on teaching and learning can be 'patchy' at best and unproven at worst, irrespective of the capital expenditure. This appears largely due to schools being unclear or vague about what they expect the ICT investment to do.

Successful use of ICT does not have a correlation with the amount spent; it's not how much you spend, but how and why you spend it. Certainly key constraints for teachers are availability and reliability (and one could argue that both these are costly), however the most significant factors in achieving success in the teaching and learning environment with ICT are strategic leadership and staff professional development. No surprises there, as is largely the case in every other quest for school improvement.

Schools need to understand where the use of ICT fits into their own school improvement process. All stakeholders need to be aware of these expectations, CDP (and possibly performance management) needs to be structured and planned. Only then should these programmes be resourced at the appropriate level.

David Haw,
Deputy Headteacher, Oxclose Community School

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10 Lane Learning	SW2
2Simple Software Ltd	F59
2Simple Software Ltd	F64
3P Learning Ltd - MathleTics	P27
3P Learning Ltd - Reading Eggs	C66
A C Leigh	L45
A1 Technologies Ltd	M60
AB Consulting	G10
Abbyy UK Ltd	SW16
Ablenet	SN82
Academia Ltd	K9
Acer uk Ltd	B100
Adult Dyslexia Training	SN57
Aha i&c Co., Ltd	T50A
Akhter Computers Plc	M19
Albion Computers - KRCS and Western	K60
Aldebaran Robotics	J70
Alfiesoft	A26
Allied Ieless International Ltd	T50
Altay Scientific S.p.a	W29
Altman Technologies	P69
AMX UK	B59
AQA	G65
Archimedes	T27
Artech Academy	H3
Ascl	J55
Asist Ogretim Kurumlari A.S	H36
Assistive Solutions	SN13
Assistiveware B.v.	SN19
Asus Technology Pte. Ltd	K29
AT Computers, MCC & Toucan	K16
Atlantic Europe Publishing	N48
Atomwide	K46
Aurora Computer Services Ltd	W61
Autology World Ltd	P4
Avantis Systems Ltd	P2
Aver Information Europe B.v.	D65
Axlesoft	IN-1
AzteQ Solutions Ltd	B75
B Squared	E80
B&s Media Co., Ltd	S71
Balazs-diak Kft	M20
Bamboo Innovations Ltd	S25
BCS	S14
BEETEG	A79
Beijing Intouch Systems co Ltd	M45
Bentham Ltd	H15
BIBUS IT SOLUTIONS LTD	T32
Bi-Bright	K40
Big Green Book	W60
Biostore	H20
Bits From Bytes	B83
Bloxx Ltd	A30
Blue Duck Education Ltd	H56
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Brahmam Net Solutions PVT Ltd	H60
Brackenbury Electronics	R84
Brainpop UK	B60
Bradford Manufacturing Ltd	E89
British Dyslexia Association	SN03
Bromcom Computers Plc	E20
Brother UK Ltd	F130
BT	J6
Cabrilog Sas	SW45
Camara de Comercio de Bucaramanga	SW20
Cambridge Assessment	A10
Cambridge University Press	D110
Canford Audio	R78
Capec Koala Studios	T16
Capita Business Services Ltd	H5
Cappe en Damm	SW44
Cartridge Stock Room	J49
Casio Electronic Products	E40
CEM, University of Brighton	SW42
Chambre de Commerce et D'industrie de Paris	B90
Charanga Limited	N22
Chashioglu Group Companies	I69
Chieru Co Ltd	L1
Cia Training Ltd	SW14
Civica UK Ltd	K54
CJM Software	V43
Clarity in Sound Light and Vision Ltd	Q58
Claro Software	SN36
Claro Software	SN64
ClickView Ltd	C70
Cloudware Ltd	SW11
Clyde Broadcast Products	P31
Conesive/aeronive Networks	G124
Cologne Gaoke Import & Export Europe GmbH	K59
Computers4africa	W53
Concept4	N10
Condor Office Solutions Ltd	L56
Connected Education	N54
Connevans	N20
Constellations	F60
Coomber Electronics	R12
Copy Logic	K62
Core Education and Consulting Solutions (uk) Ltd	H9
Cospa & Agilmic, S.l	J56
Contact Group	A31
Creating Careers	SW4
Creaza	J45
Crestron Uk	J15
Crick Software Ltd	F40
Critical Links Sa	E130
Cse Education Systems	R48
Cyberoam (a Division of Elitecore Tech. Ltd.)	G125
D & e Office Solutions Ltd	W36
Data Harvest Group Ltd	Q40
Dataspire Solutions Ltd	B51
Daydream Education	L55
Dell Corporation Limited	B20
Designmate (india) Pvt Ltd	F46
Designsoft	P61
Die Keure	A74
Different Class	SW1
DIS Co Ltd	S55
D-Link (Europe) Ltd	F70
Dolphin Computer Access Ltd	SN24
Dramaforum Oy Ltd	G118
Dymo / Mimio	C76
Dynavox Mayer-johnson	J25
E Pens Limited	N8
e4education	F26
E-animations Corp	SW38
Early Vision	T46
Easy VLE	H2
Ecoriocom Plc	A76
Editions Belin	IN-14
Editorial Oceano, S.L	M10
Editure	G121
Education Business Magazine & Awards	H70
Education City	L50
Educational Research Centre	G86
Educomp Solutions Ltd	E140
EduTech Srl	SN47
Edware	SW35
Egan Visual & Teamboard Inc	H30
Einstruction	S36
E-learning Foundation	M40
Elearningforce UK Ltd	T20
Elmo Company Limited	H19
E marketing S.a	U40
Encyclopaedia Britannica (uk) Ltd	J5
Epice	V15
Epict Uk	B35
ePraise	IN 8
EPSON Europe BV	L40
Equanet	J20
Equinet Ltd	E85
Ergo Computing Uk	H29
ERGOTRON EUROPE	R18
eSchools	M49
Eset UK	E120
Espresso Education	C30
ESRI (UK) Ltd	B80
European Commission	G110
European Electronique	D80
Eurosource	IN-15
Eurotalk Limited	R50
Every1Speaks	SW12
EXA Networks Ltd	R20
Excell 3	SW37
Express Data Ltd	T54
Eye2eye Software Ltd	SW40
Famic Technologies Inc	N49
Faronics	E99
Feedback Instruments Ltd	N56
Festo Didactic GmbH & Co.kg	P37
Firefly Solutions	T25
First News	A96
Focus Educational Software	SW63
Folio Dual Purpose Computer Desks	A100
Forwardfor	S35
Fourier Systems Ltd	F116
Freeperiod	R68
Frogtrade Ltd	M50
Frolunda Data Ab	SN59
Fuzhou Returnstar Technology Co.ltd	J18
gcsepod	U29
Genee World	L26
GIP ENA	F102
Gladstone Education	S10
Globalnet Education Consultants Sdn Bhd	SW43
Globisens	Q26
GO 4 Schools	SW22
Google UK Limited	E70
Gordon Morris Ltd	SN55
Groupcall Limited	E46
Guangzhou Shirui Electronics Ltd Co	H12
Gurao Ltd	J11
Gyldendal Education	SW41
Hanshin International Ltd	F105
Hardware Associates Limited	J69
Harff Jones Education Division	F121
Hewlett Packard	J40
Hiberna College UK	L20
Hills Components Ltd (Est 1973)	W62
Himgiri Global Institute	W57
Hitachi Solutions Europe Ltd	G30
Hodder Education	D67
Horizon Fuel Cell Technologies Pte. Ltd	P7
Hue Animation	M59
Humanware Europe Ltd	SN58
I Digital Galaxy Ltd.	U27
Iansyst Ltd	SN05
ICT Direct	I1
I-desk Solutions Ltd	D90
Idxtra Ltd	V47
I-education Ltd	Q22
IMI Technology	K56
Impero Solutions Ltd	G63
Incerts	W20
Info Technology Supply Ltd	E30
InfoMentor	M17
Integrex	SN72
Interactive Fitness Solutions	N55
Inventry	I30
Invested Education	K70
Isams Incependent Ltd	J10
Iscommunications co Ltd	V30
Isis Software	SW3
IST International Software Technology AB	T29
Isuz Ltd (Schoolcomms)	A20
Itec Ltd	R100
It's Learning	D50
ITWorx	A95
Jabbla	SN01
Jaguar Cars Maths in Motion Challenge for Schools	T9
Jellyjames Publishing	G91
Jem Education Direct	N46
Joskos Solutions	B65
Just2easy Limited	N65
Keep It Easy	P49
Ken-a-vision International GmbH	R70
Ketab Technologies Ltd	G60
Key Tools Ltd	SN60
Keynotes Education	V63
Kids N'Tweens	SW59
Kite Learning	T26
Klick Computing	SW48
Korea Digital Co.ltd	S90
Kudlian Software	R10
Kvant Ltd	N30
Labtech International Ltd	L5
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Lapsafe Products	H39
LCF UK Ltd	R26
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Learning Spaces	A43
Leba Innovation	F50
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LEXIA UK LTD	SN06
Lightspeed Technologies Inc	B85
Little Dreams Ltd	Q28
Livescribe	F120
Lj Create	D66
Logical Choice Technologies	S75
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Loxit Limited	G20
Lp+ ltd (formally Enterprise Mpc)	E10
Lucas Nuelle	F90
Luidia UK Ltd	H108
Lumens Digital Optics Inc	A99
M2Desk	P14
Macmillan Education	D130
Magewell	S98
Mailfinder Limited	SW15
Manic Monkey Limited	C86
Mantra Lingua	S33
MASS	J59
Matchware Ltd	H46
Maths for More	SW13
Maths-Whizz	U50
Matrix Multimedia	N43
Maze Media	W44
Media Development Authority of Singapore	D101
Media Smart	S61
Meru Networks	F99
Mexus Education	C79
Micro Librarian Systems	C20
Microlink pc (uk) Ltd	SN68
Microsoft	D30
Microsoft	D40
Mind Shaper Technologies Pvt. Ltd	D127
Misco Uk	G50
Mizaru Media Ltd	SW28
Modrus	V29
Moodle (Synergy Learning)	N26
Muraspec Ltd	J2
My Learning (uk) Ltd	F119
Naace - The ICT Association	J42
NASUWT	L14
National STEM Centre	W42
Nationwide Retail Systems	F49
Natur & Kultur	SW9
Nautilus Portugal	F66
Ncomputing Inc	J50
Nec Display Solutions	E90
Nelson Thornes	H6
Nelson Thornes Distance Learning	W40
NetBox Blue UK	F100
Net-ctrl Limited	A45
Netex Knowledge Factory S.L.	V33
Netop Tech Ltd	G69
NetSupport Software Ltd	E100
Netsweeper Inc	K45
Network and Cabling Solutions	S30
Neuron Learning	SW67
Newton Resources	P23
Nortek Educational Furniture & Equipment	Q30
Northgate Managed Services	D70
Ns Optimum Ltd	L8
Numerica Ltda	SW23
Nyoyn B.v	SN80
Oakford Technology	D155A
Oakford Technology	D155
Ocr	A10
Oddizzi	P47
Old Media	SN28
Omnisoft Services	T26
Oriolan Limited	T23
Ontec International Limitec	M1
Optelec Ltd	SN38
Ordnance Survey	F56
Oribi AB	SN76
Osborne Technologies Ltd	E106
Oxford University Press	F110
P Squared Ltd	R64
Panasonic UK Ltd	D102
Panopto	R30
Paradigm Audio Visual Limited	A40
Parat	S84
ParentMail	A16
Parentpay Limited	B76
Pathway Innovations and Technologies, Inc	N44
Pc Werth Limited	A51
Pearson	SW50
Pearson	B40
Pearson	C40
Pebble	P71
Phonak Ltd	D119
Phywe Systeme	R90
Planet Enterprises Ltd	F80
Playbrighter	T52
Polyvision	D99
Precedence Technologies Ltd	D10
Premier Mounts Ltd	G100
Primary Games Ltd	N36
Primarysite	A59
Prime Principle	J9
PRM Green Technologies	U32
Promethean Limited	**N2**
Promethean Limited	**B30**
Pupil Asset	H7
Q & D Multimedia Ltd	B39
QC Supplies Ltd	B69
QOMO HiteVision	D110
Qwizdom	H40
Raintree Publishers	T31
Ramsac	K2
Reach Out Interactives	K50
Reach Wildlife	P81
Reallusion	V53
Realsound Ltd	G102
Redstor	U23
Remtek Systems Ltd	SN17
Renaissance Learning	C16
RenWeb Software International	L59
Revotouch Co., Ltd.	L49
Richmond Systems	SW18
Ricoh UK Ltd	N68
Rising Stars Uk	B25
RM Education	D60
RM Education	E60
RM Lightbox	C60
Roger Frost's Organic Chemistry	SW62
Room Booking System Ltd	P45
Saak Digital Content Service SL	SW46
Samsung Electronics (uk) Ltd	K28
Sanako	Q29
Scanning Pens Limited	V55
Scholabo Ltd	IN-7
Scholastic Limited	G40
School Radio Solutions	S79
Schoolwebsite.co.uk	D100
Scientific & Chemical Supplies Ltd	P19
Seiko Epson Corporation	H16
Selectamark Security Systems Plc	E101
Selwyn Electronics Ltd	N9
Sen Magazine	SN46
Serco	F20
Serif Europe	K36
Serious Games Interactive	S57
SERVICIOS Y PRODUCTOS EDUCATIVOS CRISOL LTDA	Q26
Shanghai Lindge Software Co., Ltd	A86
Shen Zhen iBoard Technology	L46
Shenzhen Reach Software Technology Co Ltd	B79
Sherston Software Ltd	B56
SIF Association UK	V24
Sight & Sound Technology	SN40
SIIA	SW5
Simply Lamps Ltd	R22
SIMS and OPENHIVE from Capita	D20
SISRA Online	L16
Siveco Romania Sa	B55
Skoogmusic	SN81
Smart Assess Ltd	L18
Smart Learning Ltd	K68
SmartLabs	S95
Smiley Talk	SW47
Smoothwall Ltd	E105
Softex - Brazil IT	G35
Solutions House	C90
Sonicwall, Inc.	F140
Sonocent Ltd	SW8
Soundbeam	SN18
Spacekraft Ltd	SN66
Spacoasis Ltd	L60
Spark-Space	SN20
Speech Link Multimedia	P9
Spellzone	SN26
Squidcard	N80
Steljes Limited	B50
Stone Computers	K20
Stop Motion Pro - Amination Supplies	SW21
Storm Educational Software	R80
Stormfront Retail	K1
StoryPhones	V35
Studica Ltd (Europe)	L35
Studio Spares	N64
Sums Online Ltd	A39
Sunflower Learning Limited	P43
Sunsky Electronic Design and Development CO., LTD	G119
Supermemo World	L54
Sweet Counter/ Playground Pictures	W66
Switchshop Limited	N60
Synel Industries (uk) Ltd	P18
Talking Products Ltd	N28
TAPit	SN71
Target Tracker	S2
Tasc Software Solutions Ltd	F75
Teachers2parents	A70
Technogym	G80
Techsoft UK Ltd	A56
Televic Education	Q36
Texas Instruments Limited	J30
Texthelp Systems Ltd	SN70
The Times Table Adventure	V49
Therapy Box	SN22
Theta Computer Services Ltd	SW6
Tieto Sweden Healthcare & Welfare Ab	T5
Timstar Laboratory Suppliers Ltd	F96
TLC Education Group	G114
Toolwire	W30
Top Desk UK Ltd	SW7
TOP-TEC	G46
Toshiba Information Systems (uk) Ltd	L30
Traka PLC	M16
Tribune Business Systems	S34
Tripleplay Services	F133
TStudyCorp	F48
TTS Group Ltd	P22
Turning Technologies	E96
Twig	T14
U Touch Limited	L10
Uk Netcom	T24
UK2U Education/Langeroo	SW68
Uniservity	E125
Unistage	W64
University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations	A10
University of Cambridge International Examinations	A10
USB Company	G93
VeriCool Ltd	N69
Vernier Software / Ids	Q32
Videk Ltd	C10
Viglen Ltd	B70
Virtual Internet (UK) Ltd	L48
Virtualware UK, Ltd.	W38
Visa Europe	A75
Visual Education Ltd	H49
Vivitek Corporation	G70
Vivo Rewards	R56
Vocab Express	U44
Voice Services Limited	E128
Volfoni	V34
Wanin Visual Technologies Co Ltd	R58
Weather Front Ltd	Q34
Webanywhere Limited	K49
WebBased	M69
West Nottinghamshire College	T10
Westcoastcloud	E75
White Space ltd (wordshark) Ltd	F30
Wisepay	A60
Wishtrac House Limited	S51
Wizcom Technologies Ltd	SN04
WJEC	SN84
www.stuckonhomework.com	SW19
Wyse Technology uk Ltd	E119
Xface Ltd	G88
Xiamen Elex Electronics Tech&Dvlpt Co Ltd	K15
Ximus	P6
XMA Limited	C100
Xpand Cinema	K12
Young Digital Planet Sa	B49
YOUSRC	V39
ZF Electronics UK Ltd	A41
Zhejiang BCY Electronics Stock Co	E95
Zulogic Ltd	K11
Zuztertu Ltd	SW36

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